

Angry nurses vote for 24-hour strike in protest over pay

Spending plan rules out more cash for NHS

● The Government White Paper on spending plans for the next three years made clear that no more money would be available this year for the NHS.
● Nurses at three London hospitals voted overwhelmingly in favour of a 24-hour strike on February 3 to protest at their low wages.
● The presidents of three royal medical colleges condemned Mr John Moore's failure during Tuesday's Commons debate to mention extra health funding.
● A deputation from the largest grouping of backbench Tory MPs urged Mr Nigel Lawson to press ahead with his plans for cutting income tax to 25p.

By Philip Webster, Martin Fletcher and Jill Sherman

The Government refused to provide further money for the health service in the Budget yesterday, as nurses at three London hospitals voted to strike and the three royal medical colleges presidents delivered a renewed condemnation of the Government's handling of the crisis.

As public expenditure plans for the next three years were published, Mr

John Major, chief secretary to the Treasury, announced that there should be no expectation of extra spending.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had earlier been urged by a powerful group of Conservative MPs to stand firm on tax cuts rather than be deflected by the growing clamour for more health spending.

Hundreds of angry nurses at the Middlesex, University College and Royal Free hospitals in London voted for 24-hour strike action over low wages on February 3.

The presidents of the royal medical colleges, appearing before the Commons social services committee, expressed dismay and amazement that Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, had made no mention of the need for extra funding for the health service or for a full-scale review during his speech in Tuesday's Commons debate.

A deputation from the Thatcherite 92 Group, by far the largest Tory back-bench grouping, with almost 100 members, told Mr Lawson at a private meeting on Tuesday night that his first priority must be to cut the standard rate of income tax to 25p and to make "substantial" cuts in the higher rates of tax.

A growing number of Conservative backbenchers had been urging Mr Lawson to forgo at least some of his planned tax cuts in order to ease the Government's difficulties over the health service, and that if any extra spending were to be allocated to the health service, it should await the public spending round next autumn.

He was told that the Budget should be used to continue the Government's objective of boosting the economy by improving incentives.

The MPs, led by the group's chairman, Mr George Giddens, said that if eventually the Government were to give more money to the health service, it should be with "strings attached". The money should "purchase" benefits in terms of improved working practices, better management and more efficiency, rather than be "lost" in pay rises for NHS staff. Pay increases should be linked to increased efficiency.

The Chancellor is constrained from giving any indication of what his likely decisions will be.

According to one of the deputation, he merely sat and

smiled as they put their case. But it is unlikely that anything they said will have been unwelcome to him.

The presidents accused Mr Moore of a "complete denial" of the understanding they believed they had reached with him at a meeting last week.

Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, president of the Royal College of Physicians, even called for extra taxation on alcohol and tobacco with the proceeds earmarked specifically for the NHS.

The presidents had warned the Government in a statement in December that the NHS was nearing breaking point, and last night pulled no punches in describing the dire state to which the NHS had been reduced.

Sir Raymond denounced the Government's "Elastoplast policy" — sticking individual plasters over sores as they erupted on the body of the NHS, until the whole body was a mass of sores and plasters.

He said this was no way to run the system. It demoralized all those working within it and was doing the NHS no good.

Mr George Pinder, president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, likened the recent announcement of an extra £100 million for the

White Paper — 5 Doctors under pressure 12 Leading article — 13

be no expectations of any further additions to public expenditure in the Budget.

The decision was immediately criticized by Labour and some Tory backbenchers. Labour's front bench spokesman, Mr Nicholas Brown, said: "The spending figures spell further ward closures, bed losses, hospital cuts and demoralization among low-paid nurses."

The White Paper makes no increases in public spending over the next three years above those announced by the Chancellor in November.

Spending next year is fixed at £156.8 billion and in the two following years at £167.1 billion and £176.1 billion.

The decision not to yield to the Government's critics on health service spending was taken despite a further fall in the expected outturn of spending in the current year. That has been caused mainly by higher than expected receipts from sales of council houses and property sales by new towns which are netted off public spending.

Since the autumn statement the Government has announced an increase in spending on health but that has been more than offset by lower spending on defence, employment measures and intervention in the market for farm produce.

The result is that spending in the current year is now expected to be £1.3 billion below plan and £300 million lower than expected in the autumn statement, at £147.3 billion.

Mr Major emphasized yesterday that the resources available to the health service in the coming financial year would grow by at least 3 per cent in real terms. That, he said, was what the Government's critics had set as their benchmark. Nor did he expect a "draconian" increase in prescription charges.

Mr Steel, who has already made it clear that he will step down as Liberal leader if the merger is rejected, said: "The



Nurses leaving Middlesex Hospital last night after voting in support of strike action. (Photograph: Dennis McNeelance)

Maximum scope for tax cuts

By Rodney Lord Economics Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was left with maximum scope for tax cuts after the Government yesterday effectively ruled out any increases in public spending in the Budget.

Introducing the Public Expenditure White Paper yesterday Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said: "We have just concluded a public spending round and provided substantial additional money. There ought to

be no expectations of any further additions to public expenditure in the Budget."

The decision was immediately criticized by Labour and some Tory backbenchers. Labour's front bench spokesman, Mr Nicholas Brown, said: "The spending figures spell further ward closures, bed losses, hospital cuts and demoralization among low-paid nurses."

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Continued on page 20, col 5

Kinnock rules out new party role for deputy leader

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock publicly humiliated Mr John Prescott after he announced last night that he would not force a deputy leadership contest this year.

Mr Kinnock provoked the fury of Mr Prescott's supporters and other left-wing party members after Labour's energy spokesman said he was abandoning the challenge to Mr Roy Hattersley because he had secured an assurance that this year's Labour conference would debate the role of the deputy leader.

But within minutes of Mr Prescott's climbdown at a Westminster press conference, Mr Kinnock ruled out a change in the deputy leader's role, which would take away his parliamentary role and put him in charge of the party's campaigning effort, which Mr Prescott had been urging.

Leadership sources were suggesting that, given Mr Kinnock's flat rejection, there could be no guarantee of a debate at the conference.

Mr Prescott, whose possible challenge to Mr Hattersley had been backed the night before by his Hull East constituency party, met the executive of his union, the National Union of Seamen, yesterday morning. They were opposed

to him standing. However, Mr Sam McCuskie, the general secretary and Labour Party treasurer, has been working frantically behind the scenes to reach a face-saving deal which would allow Mr Prescott to withdraw.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, was deeply involved also. Mr Kinnock was consulted but sources said he had made no promises.

Mr Prescott said that as a result of the discussions he was "delighted and assured" that the debate would take place. He is to be made a member of his union's delegation so that he can move a motion reflecting his views.

Mr McCuskie said in a statement that he had received assurances from the general secretaries of other unions that they would support a debate.

Mr Kinnock said in a statement: "My view on the idea of excluding a deputy leader of the Labour Party from a major parliamentary portfolio is well-known."

"I'm completely hostile to it, like I think, just about everybody in the union and Labour movement. I've already turned the idea down flat."

Scargill to boost the hard left

By Tim Jones and Ian Smith

As the battle for the presidency of the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday became personal and bitter, it emerged that Mr Arthur Scargill is planning rule changes which will deliver the running of the union into the hands of the hard left if he is re-elected.

If Mr Scargill retains his position after the ballot tomorrow he is determined to ensure that all major policy decisions in future will effectively be made by miners from his Yorkshire heartland.

At present, the five Yorkshire members on the union's 22-strong national executive committee can be outvoted.

Mr Scargill wants the union's next conference to alter the system so that voting on the national executive is conducted by card vote. Because of the dramatic decline in membership since he became president, this would ensure that on almost every issue the Yorkshire area's 30,000 card vote would carry the day.

Yesterday as the contest for the presidential election entered its final phase, Mr John Walsh, the moderate challenger, described Mr Scargill as "a conman, clown and prophet of doom".

UK Gulf ships set for Euro link-up

From Michael Evans Defence Correspondent Dubai

A plan has been drawn up between the British, Dutch and Belgian governments to cut minesweeping forces in the Gulf by 50 per cent within the next three months — and to form a single integrated unit under one command.

The plan, which would for the first time create a joint European naval unit in the Gulf, has not yet been approved by the British Government, according to official sources. A decision is expected very soon.

There is still apparently concern over the practicalities of a single command and it is recognized that this kind of formal co-ordination could be seen as provocative by Iran.

However, according to sources in Dubai, co-operation between the three countries is already well rehearsed in the Gulf, and since the area south of Bahrain is now considered to be totally free of mines, a reduction in the number of minesweepers is seen as the obvious next step.

The sources said that the proposal was for Britain to cut its force of minesweepers from four to two and for The Netherlands and Belgium to keep just one each on station. If approval is given, the changes could be put into effect in April.

France and Italy, the two other European navies involved in minesweeping in the Gulf, are not part of the plan, since they have made it clear that they want to remain entirely independent.

For their own political reasons, they do not wish to be seen to be co-operating as part of a joint European force.

It is understood that the British, Dutch and Belgian proposal was discussed at a meeting of the Western European Union earlier this month. Under the existing arrangements in the Gulf, the Royal Navy's Armilla Patrol warships provide protection for the Dutch and Belgian vessels when they enter the most dangerous areas.

Sources in Dubai said yesterday that if an integrated unit of four British, Dutch and Belgian minesweepers was given the go-ahead, it was likely that the joint force would stay in the Gulf for at least another year.

One source said: "There is no doubt that the presence of Western minesweepers in the Gulf has helped to deter the Iranians from laying more mines. They also realized that it is counter-productive because when the mines are found and dealt with, there's a great cheer."

"However, if we all went home, they could just start sewing mines again."

Guerrillas killed in Israel raid

By Nicholas Beeston

A three-man Palestinian commando was intercepted and killed by Israeli troops just inside the Israeli border yesterday as hundreds of Shia Muslim fighters in Beirut lifted their three-year siege of Palestinian refugee camps.

The guerrillas, spotted by an Israeli Army patrol, died in a brief exchange of fire after they managed to cross through Israel's security zone in Lebanon and cut a border fence. The men were reportedly members of al Fatah, the military wing of the PLO.

In West Beirut, hundreds of soldiers from the mainly Shia Sixth Brigade of the Lebanese Army and militiamen from the Shia Amal movement withdrew from their positions around the Chatila and Bourj al-Barajneh camps in a move likely to bolster morale among Palestinian guerrillas in Lebanon and teenage demonstrators in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The move means that hundreds of Palestinian guerrillas trapped in the camps will now be able to pose a greater security threat to Israel's northern border.

Full report, page 7

Perks for all

Switching from personal to corporate perks would help businesses to keep their best employees and improve productivity, says an introduction to today's General Appointments... Pages 27-36

Clubs to wait

English football clubs waiting to hear if the European ban will be lifted for next season are dependent on the good behaviour of supporters from now until the summer... Page 42

Portfolio — Gold —

● The daily prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition rises today to £12,000, three times the usual amount because there was no winner again yesterday.
● Portfolio list, page 25.

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Baron de Rothschild dies in Paris at 85

Paris (AP) — Baron Philippe de Rothschild, winegrower, writer, sportsman, theatre director and film producer, died yesterday aged 85 at his Paris home.

Despite his wealth, his many awards, and his active life, Baron de Rothschild remained a man of the land. He took over the family's Bordeaux vineyard in a pitiful state in 1922 and turned it into a magnificent establishment that produces one of the world's finest wines.

An innovator in the often stuffy world of French wine-making, he distinguished his product by each year commissioning a different artist — including Braque, Chagall, Miró, Dalí, Picasso and Cocteau — to design the label. He had a keen interest in theatre and made France's first talking film, *Le Lac aux Dames*, in 1933. Obituary, page 14

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Cambridge may be forced into 4-year degree

By John Clare Education Correspondent

The Government's plans for reforming schools could force Cambridge to change to a four-year degree, the university disclosed yesterday.

It said there was particular concern that the new GCSE examination could lead to the dilution of A-level mathematics and physics courses.

The fears are aired in the university's academic plan for 1986-90. It points out that additional "elementary" teaching is already provided in some subjects, such as the minority languages and Classics.

"It is anticipated that more will be required if the present proposals for a national curriculum further weaken the position of languages in schools."

The document says the university earnestly hopes that A-level standards will not decline.

"Every effort will be made to ensure that the quality of first-degree work does not suffer. Indeed, chartered institutions will rightly insist on the

maintenance of high standards for entry to their professions."

The university points out that *de facto* four-year courses exist in such subjects as chemical engineering and production engineering, where a further year of study follows the three-year course leading to a BA.

By 1990 modern language students will be required to spend a compulsory year abroad, so extending their course to four years as well.

The university says at present there are formal proposals for four-year degrees only in engineering. But it adds that there is "much informal discussion in other areas".

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Foam suspected as five die in fires

Five people died in fires yesterday including a teenage girl and her father who were trying to escape from their Midlands home. Investigators fear that foam-filled furniture could have played a part in their deaths.

The deaths came on the day that Greater Manchester Fire Service launched a campaign urging the public to fit smoke detectors in their homes to prevent more tragedies before the Government's ban on foam-filled furniture comes into force in February next year.

Firemen found the bodies of three people and rescued a badly burnt girl, aged seven, after a fire at a house on the White Bushes Estate, Salford, Surrey.

Last night, police were still trying to trace two girls, believed to be working in Dorset, to tell them of the death of their father and sister in the fire in their semi-detached house in the Staffordshire village of Forton.

\$100,000 prize

A severely handicapped Cambridge physicist won a leading international award yesterday. Professor Stephen Hawking, FRS, Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, shares the 100,000 dollar Wolf Prize for Physics with Professor Roger Penrose, of Oxford.

The Wolf Foundation of Israel said the men had "brilliantly developed the theory of general relativity".

Professor Hawking suffers from a rare degenerative disease which has left him partially paralysed.

Airbus seeks US deal

Airbus Industrie, the European aircraft consortium, is seeking a United States partner to help to finance new projects in return for a contract to build them.

Mr Jean Pierson, president of Airbus, said in London yesterday that talks were being held with McDonnell Douglas and Lockheed. A link would help to defuse the dispute over alleged unfair subsidies received from European governments and provide extra capacity for building the increasingly popular range of Airbus jets.

More than 5,000 people bought £29 return air fares to Palma, Majorca, yesterday as Thomson Holidays offered a one-day sale of seats.

Court in Action on studio Rolls men

A judge visited a recording studio as the case between the singer of the group, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, and a record company continued yesterday.

Mr Justice Whitford, aged 74, inspected the studios of Zang Tumb Tumb Records, in Basing Street, Notting Hill, west London.

The record company and a music publisher, Perfect Songs, is seeking a declaration binding the group's lead singer, Holly Johnson, to contracts signed in September 1983. Mr Johnson is counterclaiming for damages.

Drugs 'baron' jailed

A drugs supplier was jailed for 21 years at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday. Thomas Mulvey, aged 51, of Whiston, received 13 years for conspiracy to supply heroin and cocaine and eight years for possessing firearms with intent to endanger life. Wayne Garnett, aged 30, of Tuebrook, Liverpool, was jailed for 10 years for conspiracy.

Mr David Turner, for the prosecution, said when Mulvey was arrested police found £2,500 worth of heroin, two revolvers and ammunition on him and a further £5,000 worth of cocaine and an automatic pistol and cartridges in his "safe house".

White Paper plan for electricity sale

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, said yesterday that he is considering publishing a government White Paper on his proposals for privatizing the electricity supply industry.

It had been expected that the Government would move straight to an announcement of the proposed legislation.

However, Mr Parkinson has said that the privatization of electricity is so complex that a White Paper may be necessary.

Mr Parkinson also told trade unions, which represent 150,000 staff in the industry, that he has reservations about privatizing the area boards at different times.

The chairman of the area electricity boards have argued that they should be privatized individually and that the National Grid should be taken

out of the control of the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The unions yesterday told Mr Parkinson that they supported the idea of a single distribution holding company but are opposed to the national transmission system being taken away from the CEBG.

Ofgas, the Government's regulatory authority which has controlled British Gas pricing policy since the industry moved into the private sector, is investigating ways of bringing gas supplies to more outlying customers.

The villagers of St Fergus in the north-east of Scotland, where the bulk of North Sea gas is landed, and villagers in Norfolk and Suffolk, where gas from the southern North Sea fields is landed, are not on mains gas because of technical problems.

Synod to debate Crockford's preface

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Editor

Members of the General Synod of the Church of England are being circulated with the full text of the preface to *Crockford's Clerical Directory* in preparation for a debate at their meeting next month.

The publication of the anonymous preface last month set off a heated debate because of its criticisms of church policy and leadership. Its author, Dr Gareth Bennett, subsequently committed suicide.

The synod will discuss the circumstances surrounding the publication and Dr Bennett's death, and the controversial analysis he presented. It represents a victory in the standing committee of the synod over those who wanted to restrict the debate to more technical issues.

Mr Derek Pattinson, secretary general of the synod, said: "There was a

long debate about whether there should be a debate at all. Then, after quite a lot of discussion, they came to think there should be a debate." As a result, the synod is likely to hear some impassioned pleading from members who support Dr Bennett's case.

No recommendation concerning the future of the preface is being put forward by the standing committee at this stage. But members will have the opportunity to table their own resolutions before the debate takes place.

The two church officials most concerned, Mr Pattinson and Mr James Shelley, secretary of the Church Commissioners, will not take part.

A report to be presented by the standing committee says that the general purposes committee of the Church Commissioners and the executive committee of the central board of finance are reviewing the practice of having a preface in *Crockford's* and its anonymity.

The synod will also debate a motion calling for a new appreciation of the importance of nurturing the faith of children in the Church. A report, called *Children in the Way*, written on behalf of the board of education, says that instead of regarding them as a "necessary nuisance", they must be given scope for their own development.

The report says children are often not given sufficient opportunity to share in the life and worship of the Church. It suggests urgent consideration should be given to reversing the established practice of requiring Confirmation before admission to Holy Communion.

Parishes needed to be aware of dangers facing children, including child abuse, and to be ready to cope with victims and their assailants. "Leaders of children's groups need to be selected with great care, for both children and leaders need to be

significantly. As legislation regarding disclosure of criminal records of crimes against children has been tightened up, there is even greater need for those responsible for appointing unpaid leaders of children's groups to be wary", the report says.

The Archbishop of Canterbury conducted the broadcast morning service from Lambeth Palace crypt yesterday to mark the first anniversary of the captivity of Mr Terry Waite, his envoy, who is believed to be held as a hostage in the Lebanon.

Mrs Frances Waite and Miss Jill Morrell, fiancée of Mr John McCarty, the British television journalist who is believed also to be a hostage, were in the congregation. A similar service was held at Mr Waite's parish church, All Saints', Blackheath, south-east London.

Lambeth service, page 14

Tebbit keeps alive hopes of succeeding to Tory leadership

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Norman Tebbit has not abandoned his hopes of leading the Conservative Party, it has been disclosed.

He believes that circumstances could still arise under which he could become a candidate to succeed the Prime Minister.

After resigning from the Cabinet after the election to pursue a new career in business, the populist former party chairman allowed the impression to be created that he had permanently turned his back on the greatest of political prizes.

However, he has since told friends that, in the unlikely event of Mrs Margaret Thatcher stepping down before the next election, he would be prepared to consider championing the right-wing cause in a leadership contest.

Mr Tebbit, like most other senior Tories, believes that the Prime Minister has every intention of seeking a fourth term and he has privately observed that he has rarely seen her in better form.

He has ruled out a return to the Government at ministerial rank and harbours no ambitions of being reappointed to the hot seat at Conservative Central Office, but he would be prepared to allow his name to go forward if the party were thrown into disarray by a sudden and unforeseen vacancy at the top.

His fear is that without Mrs

Thatcher at the helm the steam might go out of the political and social revolution with which he has long been closely identified.

His friends' disclosures about his intentions have added significance after the rapid eclipse of Mr John Moore as a potential standard bearer of the right.

A poll conducted for *The Times* last August among the new intake of Tory MPs made Mr Moore the surprise favourite to succeed Mrs Thatcher, but his stock has plummeted in recent weeks with his failure to head off the growing controversy over the National Health Service.



Mr Tebbit: prepared to champion right-wing cause.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, are the only serious right-wing contenders, and Conservative backbenchers have doubts about both of them.

The moderate wing of the party is strongly represented in Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, and Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Trade and Industry.

Mr Tebbit, MP for Chingford, resigned from the Cabinet and later relinquished his post as party chairman to spend more time with his wife Margaret, who was seriously injured in the Brighton bombing and still requires constant attention.

He has also conceded that he needs more money than the £51,000 a year paid to Cabinet ministers and, while continuing to play an active role on the backbenches, he has taken on a number of non-executive directorships, including British Telecom, Blue Arrow, Sears and BEI.

Friends also say that his ambitions are strictly limited.

By 1991, a likely date for the next election, he will be aged 60 and, in his own view, too old to launch a subsequent bid for power when Mrs Thatcher eventually decides to call it a day.

Prescott pulls out



Mr John Prescott, MP for East Ham and Labour spokesman on energy, announcing his decision not to contest the deputy leadership of the party at a press conference at the House of Commons yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Health service crisis

Kidney-failure diabetics 'left to die'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

About 300 diabetic patients are dying annually from kidney failure, partly because of a lack of resources to treat them, the British Diabetic Association said yesterday.

Britain has one of the lowest ratings among European countries for the number of people who are put on end-stage renal failure treatment, according to a report published by the association.

Only 273 diabetics out of at least 580 with kidney failure received the necessary treatment in 1985, the report showed.

"You can take it that the remaining 307 were left to die. If you are in end-stage renal failure and you don't get dialysis or a kidney transplant,

you have had it", a spokeswoman for the association told a news conference in London.

Doctors gave priority to patients they thought stood the best chance — a form of "medical discrimination" — because facilities for treating kidney patients were limited, she said.

The report, compiled with the help of the Renal Association and the Royal College of Physicians, said diabetics could also suffer from blindness and arterial disease, but those complications were now treatable and should not result in patients being denied life-saving kidney treatment.

The report called for further resources for renal treatment

until February 17 for an investigation into the delay.

The parents of Lauren Duggan, aged two, from Widnes, Cheshire, who needs a liver transplant, have appealed for help. A first transplant at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, on January 8, has been rejected.

Mrs Win Outway, aged 66, who remortgaged her home and paid £30,000 for private heart surgery and care at the Wellington Hospital, London, may get help to pay from the Royal British Legion's benevolent fund. She paid for the operation after being told that she would die if she waited 18 months for health service treatment.

The Government should open negotiations on ending the scheme but consider giving a guarantee of at least five years' employment, even perhaps work up to retirement age, for those already in the scheme, Mr Brittan said.

ON SATURDAY



Property: the golf factor

You don't have to know a birdie from a bogey, but you do have to know that golfing facilities are essential if you want to buy a holiday home in the sun that has maximum letting potential. Saturday's 16-page Property Guide takes a swing down the fairways

Brittan in fight to end docks life jobs

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The Government is being strongly pressed by Conservative MPs to put an end to the dock labour scheme, which guarantees dockers a job for life.

Nearly 200 MPs have signed a Commons early-day motion calling for abolition of the scheme as an anachronism, acting as a deterrent to job creation.

Mr Jacques Arnold, Conservative MP for Gravesend, is to lead deputations of Tory members from port areas to see Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport.

Yesterday Mr Leon Brittan, former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, put himself at the head of the campaign by calling on the Government to open negotiations, with a time limit, to end the scheme.

He called it "the most effective and dramatic step" the Government could take to demonstrate its commitment to reviving the inner cities.

Mr Brittan, who has followed the docks issue since he was on the Conservative front bench when the scheme was introduced, said in a speech on the Isle of Dogs, east London, that most of the scheme's ports were at the centre of such inner-city areas as Middlesbrough, Liverpool, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Glasgow.

But their share of trade had declined from 84 per cent in 1965 to 68 per cent in 1986.

"The shift of business from the ports in our inner cities to newer ports has been caused in very large measure by the fact that the newer ports do not suffer the crippling disadvantages of the dock labour scheme", Mr Brittan said.

Employers did not want to accept the limitations of having work done only by dockers or to face a protracted dispute with unions claiming that what they wanted done was dockers' work.

The Government should open negotiations on ending the scheme but consider giving a guarantee of at least five years' employment, even perhaps work up to retirement age, for those already in the scheme, Mr Brittan said.

Union leaders predict Ford strike backing

By Tim Jones

Union leaders representing more than 30,000 Ford hourly-paid workers were last night confident that balloting which ends today will authorize them to call strike action against the motor company's "final" pay offer.

Mr Mick Murphy, chairman of the joint negotiating committee, believes a long and damaging strike is inevitable without a substantially improved offer. The package includes 6.5 per cent pay increases for the first year followed by two years with rises linked to inflation.

In return for the pay increase and benefit improvements the company wants an end to demarcation lines and the introduction of more flexible working.

But the unions have accused Ford of wanting to reduce the workforce by more than 8,000 over the period of the proposed deal.

They have made a counter claim for an immediate 10 per cent increase and other benefits.

They have made a counter claim for an immediate 10 per cent increase and other benefits.

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Dog licence a constitutional challenge in Lords

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

A constitutional crisis is brewing in the House of Lords on the emotional issue of dog licences. Rabbing shoulders in the Local Government Bill with provisions to force council councils to farm out services and to stop them promoting homosexuality is clause 34 abolishing the 37/4p licence.

Peers of all persuasions are supporting an amendment to erase it from the Bill because they want a fee of up to £15 introduced to finance dog wardens schemes and discourage people from giving supplies as presents.

However, Lord Houghton of

Sowerby, a former Labour minister, has told them they are not within their rights to increase the fee by much as it will breach the financial privilege of the "other place", namely the House of Commons. He cited the 1911 Parliament Act, enacted as a temporary arrangement controlling the power of the House of Lords while governments thought about its future, which is still on the statute book.

Lord Houghton said: "On clause 34 we can promote an acute constitutional crisis which would be much more interesting than homosexuality. We can tell the Commons where it can put clause 34 and see what happens. This is a wonderful opportunity." He has

confessed his own guilt in the dilemma as a minister in the Labour Government of 1966 which decided to leave dog licences out of general increases.

The Union of Communication Workers, which includes postmen, has been lobbying the upper House on the premise that abolition will make it more difficult to determine ownership of miscreant animals. The union, which reported a rise in attacks from 3,992 in 1976 to 5,560 in 1985-86, says in a letter to peers: "Sadly, one in 20 postal delivery staff can now expect to be bitten by a dog in the course of their duties."

The Government says that this

present licence system brings in £400,000 a year while costing £3.1 million to collect. However, Lord Mackie of Benshie, said: "Here is a service to the public which would please both dog lovers, farmers and the postmen and can pay for itself. And yet the Government is going to do nothing about it."

No survey has been held to establish the number of dog owners in the upper House, although sources suggest it is high. However, in the words of a senior peer, who wishes to remain anonymous, "It is just the sort of subject the Lords gets very excited about, that and homosexuality of course."

Teacher and pupil are found guilty of plot to murder

By Andrew Morgan

A Merseyside teacher and an infatuated teenager conspired to murder his wife and then disguise the killing as a robbery, a jury at Liverpool Crown Court decided yesterday.

Philip Ashcroft, aged 31, and Angela Page, aged 18, were both found guilty of murder. Mr Justice MacPherson sentenced Ashcroft to life imprisonment for "the callous and premeditated murder. Page will be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure.

Ashcroft had denied murdering his wife Glenys, but admitted manslaughter after killing her at their home in St Helens in March last year. He claimed the death occurred during a violent domestic quarrel and said he had persuaded Page to tie him up and make the incident look like a robbery.

Ashcroft remained impassive in the dock as the jury delivered a unanimous verdict of murder.

While Page, the leading flugelhorn player in the brass band at Sutton High School, St Helens, became infatuated with Ashcroft, it was never established that the couple were lovers. He claimed that a love letter to Page, written on remand and containing a poem and instructions for her to change her version of events, had been written by other inmates.

Page met Ashcroft soon after she joined Sutton High School at the age of 11. She helped form the award-winning band and continued playing in it after leaving school in July 1986. She also joined the St Helens Centre A Band with Ashcroft, further cementing their friendship.

She visited the home of Mrs Ashcroft's parents, Norman and Doreen Edwards, for coaching, and was viewed almost as one of the family. At Christmas, she would join Mrs Ashcroft and her twin sister Pamela in a small brass ensemble. She regularly visited for two years and slowly developed her infatuation.

"At one Christmas party here, Angela went upstairs and found they were both alone in a bedroom, but she made a noise outside the door, and disturbed them. They both came down separately, but we didn't really think anything of it", Mr Edwards said.

By her own admission, Page was infatuated with Ashcroft in her early days at school, but she claimed her crush was over long before the night of the killing. Page is now a 16-year-old, but in 1986 she suffered from anorexia nervosa. Ashcroft, his wife and daughter Rachel visited her in hospital.

Page told the court that the whole Ashcroft family were close friends of hers and of her family, and that she became a regular babysitter. Ashcroft sent her Valentine's Day flowers, and a good luck bouquet on her first day in a short-lived job as a butcher's apprentice.

When Ashcroft summoned her to his house after band practice on the night of the killing, she obeyed without question. "I always did what he told me", she told the court. "I trusted him." She waited in the lounge of Ashcroft's home while he struggled with his wife and finally choked her to death one-handed in the hallway. She then obeyed his order to

get rid of a bag containing menacing items from the ransacked house and to tie him up so it looked like he and his wife had been the victims of a robbery.

Page did it all without saying a word. She went home, watched television with her sister and disposed of the evidence as ordered the next day. She set up one alibi for the fateful evening and when that was proved false, contrived a second.

She went on a trip to France with the school band knowing that police were investigating her story and that Ashcroft, his robbery account demolished by a neighbour who heard their final struggle, faced a murder charge.

While she was away, police established that her second alibi was also false, despite all her calmly delivered answers in hours of police questioning. The killing was a tragic finale to the relationship between Ashcroft and his wife, which began when they were teenagers. They met at the Parr brass band, in St Helens, where they were both members.

The couple were married after Ashcroft went to London University and later qualified in teacher training at Sheffield. They were often short of money and Mrs Ashcroft's parents loaned them £500 as a deposit on their first house.

Their daughter Rachel, now four, was one of the passions in Ashcroft's life. During the trial, Ashcroft claimed that Rachel was "a daddy's girl". He was reluctant to seek a divorce for fear of losing her.

Instead, he plotted her death and used his former pupil to help him cover it up.

Saying it with balloons



Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, with Emma Grace, aged nine, helping to let off 100 balloons in the City of London yesterday to mark a £4 million appeal during centenary celebrations for the handicapped children's charity '4 Can' (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater)

Fears grow as newsboy hunt draws a blank

By Craig Seton

The father of Stuart Gough, the missing paperboy, yesterday said that he feared his son was dead.

However, Mr Geoffrey Gough and his wife Jean said they had been told by the police not to give up hope.

Stuart, aged 14, disappeared halfway through his paper round in the village of Hagley, near Kidderminster, Hereford and Worcester, on Sunday morning, only 24 hours after a man of West Indian appearance in a car repeatedly stalked another local newsboy on his round.

Police fear that the same man may have abducted Stuart. One officer said they were concerned that the search for the missing newsboy would have a tragic outcome.

Mr Gough, aged 57, of Worcester Road, Hagley, said: "What keeps going through my mind is what his thoughts must have been if someone had thrown him into a car boot."

A scoutmaster in Hagley, he said he last saw Stuart going to bed on Saturday, the night before his son got up early to do his regular Sunday morning paper round.

Their other sons, Richard, aged 13, and Mark, aged 11, have continued to attend classes at Haybridge High School in Hagley, where Stuart is a pupil.

Mr and Mrs Gough praised villagers for their kindness and support.

Five hundred local people turned out to help the police search the local area for signs of the missing boy. The couple had also received letters from all over the country.

Yesterday Chief Supt Tony Warren, of West Mercia police, said his fears that

Stuart had been abducted were growing.

"I still hope that he will be found safe and well, but my own instincts and knowledge of these incidents tend to look, unfortunately, towards more tragic results."

Yesterday two helicopters, one equipped with image intensifying apparatus, together with a light plane, continued the search of the area around Hagley for signs of the missing boy.

Detectives are still investigating whether there is a link between the young man of West Indian appearance seen kerb crawling and following another newsboy in Hagley on Saturday and an attack by a dark-skinned man on a youth, aged 18, near Hereford, on Friday night.

Yesterday they issued an artist's impression of the black man seen in Hagley the day before Stuart disappeared. He is described as aged about 25, of slim build, with dark curly hair and about 5ft 7in.

Police have established the identity of a man wanted for the kidnapping of a newspaper girl last week.

The girl was sexually assaulted in a remote North Wales quarry after being abducted in the village of Cuddington, near Northwich, Cheshire, by a man posing as a police officer.

Police last night took a white Ford Cortina from a house in Telford, Shropshire.

Cheshire police have been keeping in contact with the police in West Mercia searching for Stuart Gough.

The area where the car was recovered is about 30 miles from where Stuart disappeared but it is understood that police do not believe the incidents are linked.

Jury told of rape at station

A woman yesterday described her 45-minute rape ordeal at the hands of two men to a Central Criminal Court jury trying the alleged "railway murders" case.

She said the men seized her at knife-point at a London railway station, placed black sticky tape across her eyes after making her partly undress, then raped her.

In court the woman, aged 26, was shown a videotape of a police identification parade she attended more than two years later, in which she picked out as one of the rapists a man the prosecution claims is John Francis Duffy.

Mr Duffy has denied murdering three women and raping seven others, including the witness, aged 23 at the time of the June 1984 attack.

She said yesterday that one of her attackers was tall and dark and the other, who was holding the knife, was shorter. The prosecution say that was Mr Duffy.

The woman said she was alone on the platform at West Hampstead station after midnight when she saw the two men. One asked her if the train went to Richmond and she was suspicious as she knew they did not go anywhere near there.

The taller man grabbed her, while the smaller one held a knife at her back. They forced her to walk to a bridge and the shorter man hit her twice. Both men then raped her.

The defence does not dispute that the woman was raped; the only issue is the rapists' identity.

The trial resumes today.

Lady Rothermere robbed of £23,000

A former personal secretary to Lady Rothermere went on a month-long spending spree after stealing more than £23,000 from her employer, a court was told yesterday.

Jane Salamone, aged 24, bought a sports car, expensive clothes and hi-fi equipment from Harrods and promised to give £10,000 to her boyfriend, whom she later married, so that they could set up home together.

She began working for Lady Rothermere in Belgrave, west London, last February, gaining access to private papers and documents, Southwark Crown Court was told.

She stole one of her employer's cheque books, forging the signature of Lady Rothermere's accountant with such skill that she deceived the bank into paying out, Miss Louise Kamille, counsel for the prosecution, said.

With the first cheque, she bought a Ford Escort XR3 for £4,995. When the garage

owner queried the name on the cheque, she said: "It's all right, she is my auntie", the court was told.

Miss Salamone then wrote a second cheque for £5,000 to James Durston, aged 21, her boyfriend, who later told the police he thought the money was for labour and material because he was going to do some redecorating for Lady Rothermere.

Miss Salamone then wrote a final cheque for £10,000, which Mr Durston believed came from an account she shared with Lady Rothermere, the court was told.

Mr Durston, of Southall, west London, denies five charges of obtaining property by deception and using a false instrument between March 5 and April 15 last year.

Miss Salamone, of the same address, has pleaded guilty to seven charges of obtaining property by deception and making a false instrument. The trial continues.

Council borrows staff

Cleveland social services department is negotiating to borrow social workers from Scotland to help deal with the aftermath of the child abuse scandal.

At least 116 children were taken from their parents, often after sexual abuse had wrongly been diagnosed.

Mr Michael Bishop, the county's social services director, said yesterday that he was engaged in talks with an unnamed Scottish authority.

"It is at an embryo stage and

we have not yet talked about numbers or for how long", he said.

Mr Bishop, who is short of 45 social workers out of an establishment of 220, has received nearly 300 applications after an appeal.

Liverpool's Labour-controlled city council has agreed to hire 20 extra social workers for child care duties, despite warnings that overspending may lead to council members being disqualified from office.

Drawings and water-colours fair

Dame Edna at 'ladies' day'

It was ladies' day in London yesterday when Dame Edna Everage opened the World of Drawings and Water-colours fair at the Park Lane Hotel.

Apart from the Dame herself — gorgeously attired in black with butterfly glasses — the fair seemed to be all about women. They appeared under parasols as subject matter, walking in woods, and sitting at firesides, but, most notable of all, they appeared in force as the actual artists.

Some, such as Dame Laura Knight, have gained fame over the past decade. Her action-packed circus scene, on sale for £28,000, is the highlight of the Belgrave Gallery's display.

Others, such as Anna Airy, exhibited just as much as Dame Knight during her life, but have been forgotten since. Her picture of a bearded girl waiting at a railway station is at the David Messum stand, at £8,500.

Fifty "just discovered" paintings by the Marchioness of Waterford are on sale at David Kerr Fine Art for about £200 each.

After regaling the gathered company with a robust poem

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

with lines such as "Home would be a great deal duller without the occasional water-colour", Dame Edna reverted to Barry Humphries, the genuine connoisseur and collector of water-colours, to walk anonymously round the fair.

According to organizers, sales were hard and fast.

Yesterday, the Liverpool Museum announced that a much more senior lady — in the form of the ancient Roman portrait bust of the Empress Livia — has been saved for the nation after its success in raising the necessary £156,000.

The bust, one of the best portraits of the Empress to survive, is distinctive for an intriguing cow-lick of a hair-style, and depicts the murderess and schemer made famous in the television production of Robert Graves' *I Claudius*.

The bust has been in this country since 1776 when it was brought to Marbury Hall,

Cheshire, by James Hugh Smith Barry, a friend of Charles Townley, whose collection of Roman sculpture is now in the British Museum.

It was sold to a German museum for £140,000 at a Christie's sale last July.

Christie's commission took the total price to £156,000. Contributions towards saving it from export were made by the Wolfson Foundation, National Heritage Memorial Fund, and National Art Collections Fund.

Meanwhile, an all-male contingent of Rembrandt experts is gathering in London for an international symposium on the artist starting tomorrow at the National Gallery.

Apart from Christopher Brown, the host specialist, there will be five experts from the Amsterdam-based Rembrandt Research Project, and also representatives from Berlin and Boston.

If you go down to Heathrow today, you're sure of a big surprise.

For January 20th is the day TWA open their spacious new check-in facilities.

Now, in TWA's exclusive new hall, you will find 22 new check-in desks, 5 ticketing counters and a smart new information centre. And several check-in desks are dedicated solely to First and Ambassador Business Class, for smoother passage.

Thanks to TWA, you can now start your journey feeling fresh. Which makes good business sense because then you won't arrive feeling like a bear with a sore head!

TWA

LEADING THE WAY TO THE USA.

January 20 1988

PARLIAMENT

Comments on the homeless outrage Labour

Labour MPs were outraged by comments on homelessness made during question time by Mrs Marion Roe, Under Secretary of State for the Environment.

They were upset by her criticisms of Labour-controlled local authorities using bed-and-breakfast accommodation for the homeless when they had so much empty property.

Mr Harry Cohen (Leyton, Lab) said that the cost of housing the homeless had rocketed in the past year to well over £100 million and the Government's response had been too little, too late.

His borough, listed in the top 20 for housing problems in the Department of the Environment's survey, was allocating all its available homes for homeless families at the expense of desperate waiting-list families.

It had not received a single extra penny from the Government, which was hopeless with the homeless.

Mrs Roe said that gross provision for local authorities' capital expenditure on housing would rise by 4 per cent from £2,902 million this financial year to £3,048 million next.

It was for local authorities to decide what resources to devote to the homeless, but the Government had urged that priority should be given to those in special need and £25 million of the special supplementary allocation announced in December was targeted on authorities with the greatest homelessness needs.

Many councils had only themselves to blame for such a high cost of housing the homeless. Often they put the homeless into bed-and-breakfast accommodation when there were cheaper ways of dealing with the problem.

For instance, they could spend more of their receipts from the sale of council houses... (Labour interruptions and shouts of 'You won't let them!')

There were 112,000 council homes empty today, of which about 28,000 had been vacant for more than a year.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab) said that the minister's reply was an insult to

ENVIRONMENT

the many homeless people in London who were forced to live in bed-and-breakfast accommodation or, where they were denied it, forced to sleep on the streets.

His council had received only £800,000 towards its costs for bed-and-breakfast accommodation. The Government should meet the full extra burden of these costs rather than impose penalties on local authorities that sought to alleviate homelessness.

Mrs Roe said that it was for local authorities to decide how best to accommodate the homeless people for whom they accepted responsibility.

The Government advised local authorities to use bed and

authorities for putting families into bed-and-breakfast accommodation, where did she expect them to go - on the pavement?

Mrs Roe said that local authorities must make far better use of their existing houses. The number of local authority properties that had been empty for more than a year was nearly three times the number of families in bed and breakfast homes.

Sir Geoffrey Finsburg (Hampstead and Highgate, C) said that Camden council had admitted paying between £1 million and £3 million to owners of bed-and-breakfast accommodation that had never been occupied. What steps were being taken to make sure that this did not happen elsewhere?

Mrs Roe said that she was aware of past reports relating to the bed-and-breakfast problem in Camden. An official report was awaited. Clearly there had been a significant waste of ratepayers' money.

Camden had 423 properties that had been empty for more than a year, with rent arrears running at £4.4 million. Those figures showed that, if Camden made better use of its housing stock, it would be able to meet its responsibilities to the homeless without resorting to bed and breakfast.

Mr Clive Selby, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that the minister's comments were a disgraceful insult to the homeless and to local authorities.

The Government had nearly three times as much empty property as had local authorities. Local authorities also had less empty property than housing associations or the private sector.

It was cheaper for the country to build a new home than to keep a family in bed and breakfast for a year. When was the Government going to do something to alleviate the crisis of homelessness?

Mrs Roe said that Government departments did own residential property for operational reasons and they needed to maintain it for operational flexibility.

Those with significant numbers of empty dwellings were urged to bring them back into use, sell them or let them temporarily to help the homeless.



Mrs Roe: Many councils are themselves to blame

breakfast only as a last resort. It was extremely expensive and particularly unsuitable for families for any length of time.

It was surprising that some authorities, such as the London boroughs of Camden, Brent and Tower Hamlets, used bed-and-breakfast accommodation extensively, whereas others with similar circumstances, such as Greenwich, did not use it so much.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) said that if the minister was criticising local



Mr Moylan: The privatization of management contracts is being sought so as to improve competition

Soccer clubs penalty must stay

SPORT

Readmission of English football clubs into European soccer must be made conditional on the behaviour of English fans, not only for the rest of the season but also for the duration of the European championships in West Germany.

Mr Colin Moylan, Minister for Sport, said during Commons questions.

Any decision not conditional on that would be a wrong decision.

Mr David Evans (Welwyn Hatfield, C) (chairman of Luton Town Football Club) said that Luton had, on Tuesday evening, allowed visiting fans back into the stadium for the first time in 18 months. The result had been three arrests and one policeman in hospital.

On that basis English clubs should not be allowed back into Europe until the season was at an end.

Mr Moylan said that he hoped to make a statement early in February in response to the consultation exercise on competition in the management of

local authority sports and leisure facilities. To pre-empt that statement would be quite wrong.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C) said that most people believed that competitive tendering would bring substantial relief for ratepayers.

The majority of leisure and sports facilities were losing enormous sums of money and if that loss could be stopped, there would be enormous savings for sport, for ratepayers and for the sports industry.

Mr Moylan: I fully endorse that point.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline West, Lab) said that parallel proposals in Scotland threatened the only swimming pool in the Western Isles with closure.

Mr Moylan said that he did not believe that such a closure would result from the Government's proposals. Many re-

sponses from interested parties, including governing bodies of sports, from sea anglers and the Jockies Club to squash, had been supportive of the proposals.

Mr Tom Pendry (Stalybridge and Hyde, Lab) appealed to the minister to stop "this nonsense" of privatizing sports facilities.

The Amateur Swimming Association, whose patron was the Queen, had said that anything that would make it more difficult or more expensive to learn to swim must be a retrograde step.

The minister should stand tall for sport.

Mr Moylan said that the Government had no proposals to privatize local authority recreational facilities. The privatization of management contracts was sought to improve competition in the running of the facilities.

Mr Harry Greenwood (Ealing North, C) said that it was not intended that competitive tendering should apply to educational facilities.

Mr Moylan said he was certain that the introduction of competition would help.

Mr Dennis Howell, Opposition spokesman for sport, said that an overwhelming number of local authorities and sports organizations were opposed to the proposition that sports facilities and swimming baths which the community had provided should be handed over to private management.

It would mean no local authority would again build a swimming pool or sports facility.

He asked whether schools which opted out under the Education Reform Bill would be allowed to take dual-use sports facilities with them.

Those facilities had been built by the community for the benefit of the community and the minister should protect them for the use of the community.

Mr Moylan said it was not intended that competitive tendering should apply to educational facilities.

Land register may become public

The Government is supporting a Bill introduced by Lord Templeman, a law lord, to make the register of land held by public and private bodies available for public inspection.

Mr Michael Howard, Minister of State for the Environment, announced the Government's decision during Commons questions today.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said later that if any developer, investor, householder or housing association wished to use vacant local authority land, all he had to do was to ask the department. "If it is truly vacant, we will make sure it is available to him."

Mr Simon Hughes, the Liberal spokesman on the Environment, said that one way for everybody to know what land was available and to prevent speculation was to have open access to information to know who the landowners are. There was an overwhelming case for a register of all land held by public and private bodies.

Mr John M. Taylor (Solihull, C) said that the existing voluntary register of local authority land holdings should be made compulsory.

Mr Howard said that the Government was awaiting the conclusions of a working group made up of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, the Local Authority Associations and the Audit Commission before it made any further decisions about compulsion.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North-West, Lab) said that there should be a register of Government-owned land. "The Ministry of Defence is hoarding land like some medieval baron. What pressure is he putting on to see that the MoD releases land for more social purposes?"

Mr Howard said that the MoD had particular needs. The Government was taking steps to ensure that it was not holding land unnecessarily.

Mr Martin Bradburn-Bravo (Nottingham South, C) said that, while local authority land was important, that held by statutory undertakers and private bodies was also important, particularly in the context of efforts to revive the inner cities.

Mr Howard said that the role of market forces in making land available must be remembered. He expected more land to be available.

Mr Ridley faced a demand from his own backbenches to bring more vacant land back into use.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said that many of the 91,000 acres involved were in urban areas, suitable for housing. Would he take further powers to bring the land into use?

Mr Ridley replied that such powers as were necessary were now being taken in the Local Government Bill.

Not all the land was in places where there was a demand. There was no point in acquiring land in areas where there was no developer or industrialist who wished to use it.

Projection abroad of Britain's culture and values is vital, peers are told

HOUSE OF LORDS

The projection of British culture and values was intrinsically important and therefore it was in the interests of both of the country and the rest of the world that the fruits of that culture should be disseminated as widely as possible, Lord Bonham-Carter (L) said in the House of Lords.

He was opening a debate calling attention to the case for increasing the available resources for cultural diplomacy in line with its importance as a central element of Britain's diplomatic effort.

He said that he was not making a declaration of cultural imperialism, but of his confidence in the values that lay behind the formal institutions, academic life and the vitality of artistic life of this country.

The External Services of the

formerly Mr Norman St John Steves, in a maiden speech, said that behind the phrase, cultural diplomacy, lay the proposition of increasing British influence in the wider world. That was not for commercial or economic reasons, but because we believed the extraordinarily rich and varied experience of this nation constituted a unique contribution to the welfare of mankind.

"We are therefore under a duty to make it as widely available as possible. If asked to say what I considered the greatest contributions of this country to the world, I would say the common law, parliamentary government and the English language and literature. And at the heart of all three lies the idea of liberty."

"I do not believe we can export our institutions in-

discriminately, but by informing people of how they work and flourish and by imparting an insight about them, we can enhance the chance of that freedom everywhere."

Lady Blackstone (Lab) said that the External Services of the BBC were a valuable part of our cultural effort overseas because they were able to reach millions of people who could not be reached in any other way.

While the services could not be compared in size with those of the superpowers, they could match them for quality.

Audibility was vital, and it was unfortunate that in many areas, large parts of Africa, Chile, Argentina and Soviet Asia, signals were weak. To make radio broadcasts that could not be heard was a situation like Alice in Wonderland.

The British and Hong Kong governments wished to see the development towards more representative government there to continue steadily.

Mr Edward Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup, C) said that if they were to maintain the

confidence of the people of Hong Kong, they had to show that they were running the show properly.

"We cannot afford to let it gradually slip."

"If we do, the financial and industrial interests of Hong Kong will rapidly draw the conclusion that we are not going to carry out our part of the agreement with China. If they come to that conclusion, the prosperity of Hong Kong is going to fade away."

Howe pledge on future of Hong Kong

It was a myth that Britain had sought good relations with China at the expense of the interests of Hong Kong, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told MPs at the start of a debate on the crown colony.

Nothing could be further from the truth, he said. "Anyone who went through the lengthy and strenuous negotiations with the Chinese which led to the joint declaration knows that is a grotesque distortion."

"There is no question of putting Hong Kong second. We have upheld and will uphold Hong Kong's interests to the full."

"It would be an illusion to suppose that we could create good relations with China at the expense of the interests of Hong Kong. All the evidence makes plain that Hong Kong prospers when London and Peking are in harmony."

Britain and China were engaged in a unique enterprise, creating conditions for the

transfer of responsibility for an entire community, while preserving its present systems, human rights and life style.

The relationship between the British and Chinese governments was close and cordial.

Mr Edward Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup, C) said that if they were to maintain the

Complaint 'should go to police'

Mr Simon Hughes, Liberal spokesman for the environment, made allegations of property fraud in areas of development corporations during questions.

He was told by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, that his allegations of widespread fraud and abuse were not substantiated and that any complaints about individuals or any evidence about fraud should immediately be given to the police.

Mr Ridley added that he resented the last time that Mr Hughes had mentioned an individual by name in the House.

Mr Hughes had said there had been at least one conviction of a property developer dealing in dockland property recently.

He also spoke of investigations by the Metropolitan Police and the City Police into allegations about property fraud and abuse in docklands.

As Mr Ridley was setting up further development corporations, and as major abuses existed, Mr Ridley should have discussions with the National Audit Office and the corporations themselves to ensure that the regime for dealing with property could reduce abuse.

Mr Ridley said later that the London Docklands Development Corporation had done a "stirring and astonishing" job. It had been scrupulous in ensuring standards of professional conduct at every level of its organization.

Scots unready for new charge

From what the Government had said so far on its proposals for the poll tax in Scotland, there were real fears that it would not be ready legally to collect the charge on April 1 1989.

Mr Archie Kirkwood (Rossburgh and Berwickshire, L) told the Commons in a debate late on Tuesday.

He was moving amendment of the Non-Domestic Rates and Community Charges (Timescale) (Scotland) Regulations 1987 and the Abolition of Domestic Rates (Domestic and Part Residential Subjects) (Scotland) Regulations 1987.

Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State for Scotland, said that the Bill allowed plenty of time for the community charge to be properly implemented.

The motion was rejected by 271 votes to 218 - Government majority, 53.

Hazardous waste safety

The Government is looking at ways to improve controls on the handling of hazardous waste, Mr Colin Moylan, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, told MPs during questions.

He said that they were dedicated to ensuring that every possible control was taken for a well managed and highly proficient waste-disposal industry.

Mr Allan Roberts, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, asked why this country was importing hazardous waste when it had enough of its own to dispose of.

Mr Moylan replied that this country had an excellent history of waste control.

Assurance for Cumbria

Under Secretary of State for the Environment, gave a categorical assurance that a decision on finding a national facility for the disposal of intermediate-level nuclear waste would be taken on the most objective of criteria.

It was demanded during questions by Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) (above), who said that British Nuclear Fuels had offered up West Cumbria as a sacrificial lamb in the quest to find such a facility. "They had no mandate at all from the district authorities, from the county authority or from the industrial development authority responsible for creating jobs in West Cumbria."

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Home Office and Prime Minister. Firearms (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Duchy of Lancaster Bill, remaining stages. Lords (3): Legal Aid Bill, committee, fourth day. Betting, Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Debate on damages to trees and countryside in autumn gales.

Correction: In yesterday's report on Prime Minister's questions, the child to whom Mrs Thatcher referred as having a leaking heart valve was Matthew Mulhall, not Matthew Collier.

Bill would allow people to demand media corrections

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A Bill giving people a statutory right to correct inaccuracies about them in newspapers and on television was published yesterday by Labour MP with support from all parties and a wide range of outside organizations.

The Unfair Reporting and Right of Reply Bill, sponsored by Mrs Ann Clwyd, MP for Cynon Valley, is due for a second reading in the Commons on February 5.

Under it, people failing to obtain a swift correction will be able to complain to a new, powerful media commission, appointed by the Home Secretary, with powers to order a correction, enforceable if necessary by High Court order.

The Bill, although supported by individual ministers, has no chance of becoming law without Government backing. The Government has yet to make its position known, although backing is unlikely.

It may not even be debated on February 5, a private member's day in the Commons if the two

measures with precedence on the order paper, one requiring the fitting of rear seatbelts in cars, exhaust the time available.

But Mrs Clwyd, who published a consultation document in December about her plans, reported yesterday a wealth of public support for the measure.

People who claimed that their lives had been ruined by inaccurate reporting appeared at yesterday's Commons launch of the Bill and support was committed from leading figures in entertainment, local authorities, unions and other organizations.

One man said that he lost his business, home and reputation and was forced to make 250 employees redundant, after a television news story attacked the product his company supplied. It was reported that five years after the event the story's claims had been shown to be groundless.

Parliamentary supporters included Mr Marilyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, Mr Robin Squire, Conservative MP

for Hornchurch, and Mr Mark Fisher, the shadow Minister for the Arts.

Mrs Clwyd's Bill provides that anyone should be entitled to correct inaccuracies in editorial material affecting them and which they "reasonably believe" to be factually inaccurate.

Where a person or body established a right of reply the newspaper or broadcasting organization would be required to print or broadcast free of charge a correction to put right the inaccuracy in the next possible edition of broadcast.

Only when they refused to publish a correction that the media commission would come into play.

The commission would be required to give its decision within seven days of receiving a complaint, unless impracticable.

Mrs Clwyd said that many of the letters received by her campaign had been heart-breaking.

Change to poll tax defended

About 53 per cent of households would be better off when the community charge replaced rates, Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Local Government, said during questions.

He said that the highest 10 per cent of households by income would continue to contribute 16 times as much as the lowest 10 per cent of households by income to the cost of local authority services under the community charge.

Mr Robin Squire (Hornchurch, C) said that the number of people unhappy about the community charge had risen to nearly 70 per cent.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that one in five of single pensioners would pay more under the tax than they paid in rates.

Mr Howard said that he would have thought that a change which benefited four out of five single pensioners would have been welcomed by those with the interests of pensioners at heart.

Tebbit calls for health service review

The following report of a Commons debate on the crisis in the National Health Service appeared in later editions yesterday.

The more that money was dripped into the National Health Service in response to complaints that were not always rational, the worse the service would become, Mr Norman Tebbit (Chingford, C) said during the debate.

He deplored the "shrouding exercises" over the NHS and called for a searching review of the funding and provision of the service as a condition of more funding.

He said that all too often money went, not on the basis of need, but on the basis of deceit of squal.

If the Chancellor were to decide that there were to be no tax cuts but to spend the whole amount on the health service, it would not be many years before demands were made for more.

Mrs Rosie Barnes (Greenwich, SDP) said that the Government could not continue to pretend that there was not a

HEALTH

crisis. The country was screaming that there was.

Sir Barney Hayhoe (Brentford and Islington, C), a former Minister for Health, said that statistics quoted in defence of the Government's record on the health service needed to be looked at carefully.

Of the 44,000 increase in the number of nursing and midwifery staff since 1979, a total of 38,700 had been appointed before the 1983 election, with only 5,600 being added in the past four years.

Similarly, the really sharp increases in spending on the NHS took place in the early years of the Conservative Government and were largely used to restore the pay of staff to a reasonable standard.

One of the Government's problems was that it spent the money, but it did so in such a way that it received attacks rather than plaudits.

There had to be more money

for 1988-89 to meet the full unbudgeted costs of the 1988 pay increases, plus perhaps up to £300 million - no more that to relieve the mounting pressure on many health authorities.

"There is an urgent, pressing need. The sooner the Government meets it, the better."

"The longer they delay doing what I believe now is virtually certain to be done - the more they will dissipate the political advantages that will flow from it and the more they will damage the morale in the National Health Service."

Sir Rhodes Boyson (Brent North, C) said that the Government did not need to provide health care for everyone, but it did need to ensure that health care was available to everyone.

A nationalized health service was no longer needed.

Mr Roger King (Birmingham, Northfield, C) said that national insurance contributions could be reduced by a significant amount if the principle was established that those who could afford it should have to pay 50

per cent towards their operations. People would then take out insurance policies.

Mr David Hinchliffe (Walsley, Lab) said that the Prime Minister was a headless, ageing ostrich with his head buried in the sand and denying the facts daily presented to her about what was happening to the NHS.

Mr David Maud (Falmouth and Camborne, C) said that the NHS was "virtually an endangered species in Cornwall".

Miss Harriet Harman, a Labour spokeswoman on health and social services, said that all that the alternatives to a national health service, insurance or market-based systems, were more expensive, more unduly more bureaucratic and less efficient than the NHS.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 338 votes to 233 - Government majority, 105.

A Government amendment applauding the achievements of the NHS was carried by 336 votes to 236 - Government majority 100.

EXPENDITURE WHITE PAPER

Scope for cuts in tax as spending is held in check

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The Government has maintained its spending plans unchanged despite pressure for higher public spending, particularly on the National Health Service, leaving the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, maximum scope for tax cuts in the Budget.

Introducing the Public Expenditure White Paper yesterday, Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said the Government had two overriding aims. They were to find the necessary funds for priority programmes while keeping total spending falling as a proportion of national income and to continue to improve the value for money which the Government obtained.

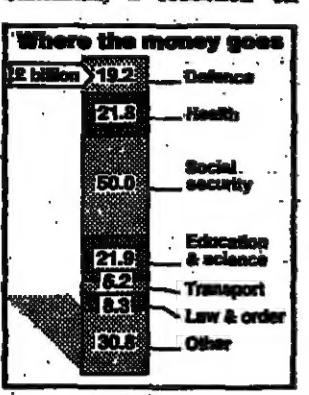
Public spending is planned to fall over the next three years from 42.5 per cent of national income, excluding privatization proceeds, to 41.25 per cent. In real terms, that represents an average growth of 1.25 per cent a year compared with 1.75 per cent in the previous four years and 3 per cent in the decade to 1978-79.

The planning total of public spending for the coming financial year is confirmed at £146.8 billion, followed by £147.1 billion and £147.6 billion in the two succeeding

years. The reserves are set at £3.5 billion, £7 billion and £10.5 billion respectively with proceeds from privatization at £5 billion a year.

In the current year, public spending is slightly lower than expected, and £1.3 billion below the plan set out a year ago. Although an increase in spending on health was announced before Christmas, that has been more than offset by lower spending on defence, measures following the fall in unemployment and agricultural intervention.

Total spending this year is expected to be £147.3 billion compared with the figure of £147.6 billion in the Autumn Statement, a reduction on



plan brought about by increased capital receipts from council house sales and property sales by new towns.

Capital spending will fall in real terms in 1988-89 by about 2.3 per cent and thereafter remain stable. In cash terms the figures for the next three years are £23.5, £24.1, and £24.9 billion.

Unemployment is assumed, for the purposes of the White Paper, to remain stable at 2.6 million. In Great Britain, Mr Major said yesterday: "The expectation is that unemployment will continue to fall, though perhaps not at the same rate as in the recent past." Inflation is assumed to average 4.25 per cent in the current year, followed by 4.5 per cent, 3.5 per cent and 3 per cent.

Departmental running costs for next year have been set at a total of £13.48 billion, 5.8 per cent higher than in the current year compared with the previous increase of 5.6 per cent.

Mr Major emphasized the need to improve value for money and said that to do so the Government needed to define objectives, set quantifiable targets and then measure output and performance.

Leading article, page 13



PRISONS: Large share of Home Office extra spending.

HEALTH: No more emergency cash for hospitals.

INNER CITIES: Development corporations are the jewel.

INNER CITIES

'Jewel' funding to rise by £65m

By David Walker

The urban development corporations in London Docklands, on Merseyside, in Newcastle, the Black Country and on Teesside emerge as the jewels in the crown of the Government's urban policy.

Spending next year is to be £65 million above the 1987-88 level, estimated at £133 million, and will rise to around £220 million by 1990-91.

The Government says the actual amount to be spent by the corporations on regeneration will be greater than that since they are allowed to keep any money they earn from selling land and property. The plan envisages that gross spending by the UDCs will rise to £324 million in the coming financial year.

In spite of the recent appointment of Mr Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for Trade and Industry, as supreme for the inner cities, the White Paper makes no effort to group together the various government programmes concerned with the inner areas.

For the first time, however, the Department of the Environment breaks down the objectives of the £327 million a year inner-city programme, which it shares with the Department of Education, the Department of Transport and others. Some 28 per cent of that money was spent in 1987-88 on "social projects", against 16 per cent on "economic projects".

Other points from the Department of the Environment's projections include a reduction in spending on the management of radioactive waste and the complete elimination of the "external financing limit" for the water authorities which, by April 1989, must cover their costs by their charges.

LAW AND ORDER

Prisons get £67m injection

By David Sapped

Fresh moves to end chronic overcrowding in prisons and provide additional police manpower account for the lion's share of increased Home Office spending.

The Government, already committed to the most ambitious prison-building programme this century, plans to construct six more jails in addition to the 20 announced since 1979, to provide an additional 3,600 places by 1993. The existing construction programme is to be accelerated. Home Office spending will rise by £352 million to £6.05 billion in 1988-89, and will reach £6.47 billion in 1990-91.

Some of the extra cash will be earmarked for nine extra bail hostels, crime prevention and anti-drugs initiatives.

Expenditure on the criminal justice system has more than doubled in cash terms between 1979-80 and 1987-88, representing an increase in real terms of more than a third. The Prison Service is to get an additional £67 million in 1988-89, and £94 million extra in 1989-90.

Total police strengths in England and Wales are set to rise to 125,113 by March 1989, with increased expenditure of £240 million. London will get an extra 300 officers and the provincial forces an additional 500 men, plus civilian support staff.

Spending on the fight against drugs is to rise by £3 million in 1988-89, with a similar increase in 1989-90.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Spending on social security will rise to take into account the increasing numbers of pensioners, long-term sick and disabled and single-parent families claiming benefit.

Total expenditure is expected to rise from £46,401 to £48,500 in 1988-89, increasing to £53,500 in 1990-91. Of that nearly half, just under £24,000 million in 1988-89, will be spent on the elderly.

SCHOOLS HELPED ON CURRICULUM COSTS

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The demands of the proposed national curriculum dominate the education section of the White Paper.

Over the next two years, local education authorities in England will receive another £90 million for administration and inspection costs to enable them to ensure that the national curriculum is being properly delivered.

There is also to be substantially more money for school books. By next year, average spending on books and equipment will rise to £35 for each primary school pupil and £60 for pupils at secondary school.

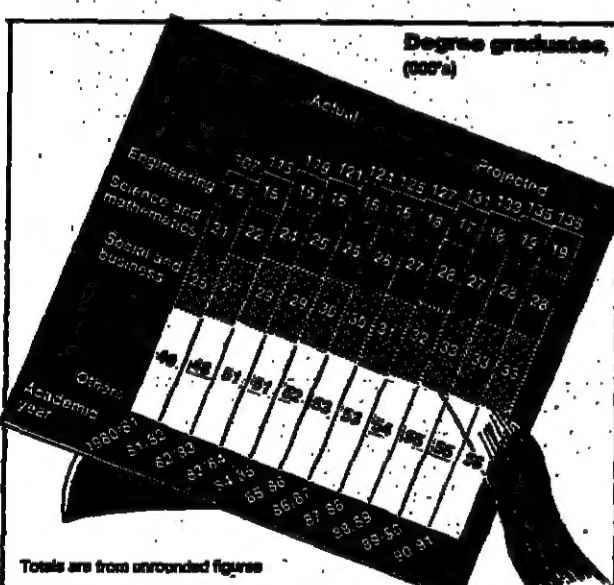
New government grants will be available to train head teachers to manage school budgets and to prepare school

governors for their new responsibilities.

Total spending on education is projected to rise from £17 billion this year to £18.6 billion in 1989-90 and then remain at that level "in real terms".

The number of primary school pupils is projected to rise from 3.3 million this year to 3.5 million in 1990-91. Secondary school numbers will continue to fall, from 3 million to 2.8 million.

The Department of Education and Science is to expand to cope with the reforms. Spending is expected to rise from £58,000 this year to £68,000 in 1989-90 and the number of Civil Servants will increase by 150 to 2,500.



Totals are from unrounded figures

DEFENCE

Squeeze a threat to projects

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The tight squeeze on the defence budget will be eased marginally by an extra £230 million in 1988-89, £490 million in 1989-90 and £600 million in 1990-91.

In real terms that still represents a cut of around £450 million, or 2.5 per cent over each of the next two years and Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, will be faced with some tough decisions about what projects to pursue.

Among the items in doubt or facing delay are orders for Type 23 frigates, replacement or modernization of the Royal Marines amphibious assault ships Fearless and Intrepid and development of the NFR-90 Nato guided-missile frigate.

The White Paper projects increases in the defence budget from £18,850 million this year to £19,208 million next year and £20,560 million in 1990-91.

It also forecasts reductions in both military and civilian manpower.

Sales of surplus MoD land and buildings raised £75 million in 1986-87, £111 million above the target.

N. IRELAND

The rising price of terrorism

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

An increase in terrorism and reports that the Provisional IRA aims to step up its activities has led the Government to devote extra money to fighting violence in Northern Ireland.

Spending on the RUC, the courts and the prison service there will rise by almost £100 million to £610 million during the next three years.

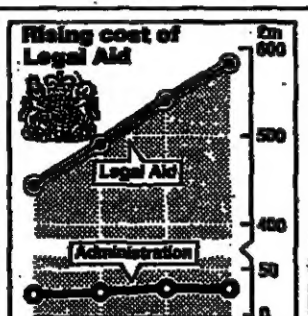
In addition, about £170 million a year will be spent on the Army stationed in the province to support the RUC in its duties.

The cost of law and order 1987-1988 is £168 million.

SCOTLAND: The National Health Service in Scotland was given special priority when Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced public spending commitments for the coming financial year (Kerry Gill writes).

NHS cash will rise by £83 million to ensure patient care for the sick and elderly, and new hospital building and maintenance.

WALES: Public expenditure in Wales is to be increased by 8.1 per cent in 1988-89 to a record level of £3.45 billion (Tim Jones writes).



LEGAL AID

Bill seeks more value for money

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The legal aid scheme is set to rise from £441 million to £520 million, a 31 per cent increase, in the next three years, according to the spending plans.

The rise takes account of Government proposals to secure better value and improved productivity from the scheme, which accounts for two-thirds of the Lord Chancellor's budget.

In particular, there are proposals for progressively earlier payment for legal aid work. The Lord Chancellor's Department is introducing a payment-on-account scheme, by which lawyers will have their bills met during long-running cases and not at the end.

The department is aiming also to control fees for lawyers doing legal aid work through the introduction of standard or fixed fees and not payment by length of time.

The Legal Aid Bill, now in committee stage, will set up a board to run the scheme. The aim will be to secure "increasing value for money" from legal aid administration costs.

The legal aid bill accounts for £441 million of the Lord Chancellor's total budget of £643 million, excluding the salaries of the higher judges. By 1990-91, the total budget will rise to £820 million because of the mounting workload of the civil and criminal courts, in spite of increased productivity.

If waiting times are to be stabilized and delays kept to a minimum, crown courts must maintain productivity increases of 3 per cent a year and county courts of 2 per cent a year, the Lord Chancellor's Department says.

It says that improvements in efficiency will depend also on factors outside its direct control, including the rate of referrals of cases from magistrates' courts to crown courts, which is expected to grow at about 6 per cent a year.

Targets assume productivity increases of 2 per cent a year in the county courts

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, said capital spending on national roads would be about 30 per cent higher in real terms in 1988-89 than 10 years ago.

The British Road Federation said, however, that in real terms spending on roads would fall over the next three years, while traffic was growing at 4 per cent a year. It estimated that the real value of road spending would fall by 2.5 per cent this year.

The White Paper shows that last October there were 214 miles of motorway and other trunk roads under construction. Over the next three years 240 miles of motorway and 600 miles of trunk road will be renewed to eliminate a backlog of maintenance work.

It says that public expenditure will be concentrated on functions that cannot be carried out by the private sector without subsidy, and that within the public expenditure programme the balance of spending will move away from local authorities towards housing associations.

The shift is clearly shown in the number of local authority

The Government stands firm

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

In spite of widespread calls for more spending on the National Health Service, the Government is standing by the figures announced last autumn.

The White Paper contained no surprises about future spending and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr John Major, made it clear that no further expenditure on health would be announced in this year's Budget.

Amid calls for between £200 million to £1.3 billion extra for the NHS, the White Paper merely confirms previous spending estimates on the hospital and community health services for the next three years.

Spending on these rises by £700 million to £11,989 million, a real increase of 1.7 per cent. That does not include the extra £90 million announced before Christmas which marginally reduces the percentage rise. In the subsequent years, spending will rise by £490 million and £551 million, representing a real increase of 1 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively.

However, the White Paper does show that income to the family practitioner services is expected to rise by £127 million to £520 million next year,

an increase of more than 32 per cent.

Mr Major denied yesterday that this meant higher prescription charges next year. Part of the rise was the result of fewer people qualifying for exemptions because of falling unemployment and rising wages, Mr Major said. It was also the estimated income expected from the sale of the General Practitioner Finance Corporation, a public corporation responsible for financing loans for surgeries.

In the two following years, income is expected to fall slightly to £490 million before rising again to £530 million -

a figure which includes estimated income from charges for dental checks.

The White Paper shows that total spending on the family practitioner services, which include GP services, dentists and opticians, will rise from £4,269 million this year to £4,687 million in 1988-89 and up to £5,360 million in the next year. Total spending on the NHS will rise from £16,174 million this year to £19,050 million in 1990-91.

The paper says the Government remains committed to the principle of financing the NHS largely from taxation. In 1987-88, 83 per cent of the cost of the NHS was met from general taxation, 13 per cent by the NHS contribution, 4 per cent from charges and receipts.

Mr Major said that spending on the service would increase by 3 per cent in real terms next year if cost improvement measures and income generation schemes were taken into account. Cost improvements including rationalizing patient services, Rayner scrutinies and energy saving measures are expected to yield savings of £500 million by the end of this year. Savings from competitive tendering of ancillary services amount to £103 million.

The White Paper confirms that the Government intends to achieve savings from clinical budgets. "Health authorities will need to look critically at the way in which clinical services are organized in order to ensure that they are giving maximum value for money."

Manpower accounted for 75 per cent of current NHS expenditure, says the paper, but while clinical staff had increased over recent years, the number of support staff, particularly ancillary staff but including administrative and clerical staff, had fallen.

Dr John Mulvey, of the Save British Science campaign, disputed the figures in the budget because they included money spent on pensions and redundancy payments when laboratories shut.

The overall figures also include £90 million for research in the humanities and £170 million for research in social sciences.

The defence research budget has risen from £1,795 million in 1982-83 to £2,458 million in the coming year.

Commenting on the spending plans, Mr Jack Layden, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said the Government was continuing to turn its back on the country's public services.

The Institute of Housing said the spending plans confirmed its growing suspicion that the Treasury was not providing sufficient money for housing benefit or rental allowances.

There are also plans for increases in spending from £111 million in 1986-87 to £132 million in 1990-1991 by the countryside and recreation bodies including the Development Commission, the Nature Conservancy Council, the Countryside Commission and the Sports Council.

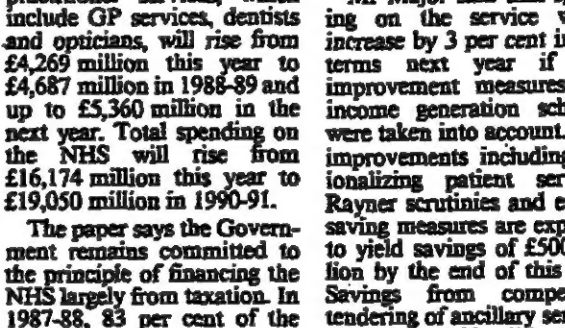
There will be an increase

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Hospital and community health service manpower

Front line staff: Nurses, midwives, health visitors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, radiographers, etc.

Others: Administration, clerical, catering, etc.



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Associations and the inner cities are prime beneficiaries

By Christopher Warrain, Property Correspondent

Total government capital spending on housing is planned to increase from £3.7 billion in 1987-88 to £3.8 billion next year, the level at which it will remain for the following two years.

The increase is largely the result of government measures to help to revive the inner cities. Estate Action, which encourages local authorities to

adopt new ways of tackling problems on their rundown housing estates, has its budget increased from an estimated £150 million in 1987-88 to £300 million next year.

The White Paper emphasizes that most expenditure on housing already comes from the private sector and that the Government wishes to encourage further the private sector and expand the opportunities for private investment.

HOUSING

It says that public expenditure will be concentrated on functions that cannot be carried out by the private sector without subsidy, and that within the public expenditure programme the balance of spending will move away from local authorities towards housing associations.

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Legal aid watchdog criticizes plan for advice centres

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The main plank of the Government's proposals on legal aid, to "contract out" the giving of certain legal advice work to lay advice centres, was criticized by the Government's own watchdog body on legal aid yesterday.

The Lord Chancellor's Legal Aid Advisory Committee says in its annual report that it recognizes that such advice agencies can help in providing an improved legal service. But it doubts whether they are likely "to be able to provide the current level of service at a lower cost".

The committee also attacks Home Office consultative proposals on custodial remands, under which prisoners would be brought before a court every 28 days instead of the present eight days.

The proposals "undermine fundamental rights" and there is insufficient evidence of savings, the committee says. "These proposals and the lack of progress being made in reducing waiting time on the day lead the committee to believe that there is a need for a wide-ranging review of the procedure in magistrates' courts."

Miss Daphne Park, the committee's chairman, calls for new machinery between the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Home Office to reconcile their joint responsibilities for the criminal justice system. Without it a cost-effective legal aid service might be difficult to achieve, she says.

Legal aid and such issues as bail should be looked at "within the whole framework of the state's arrangements for the delivery of justice and for counselling procedures which may reduce the need for litigation".

The committee, whose long-term future is uncertain under government proposals for legal aid, urges radical reforms for the courts and the law to improve access to justice for the poor.

Miss Park says: "Early access to justice through legal aid depends increasingly on reforms in court procedures and in substantive law".

The committee also expresses concern about other government proposals for legal aid, now going through the House of Lords.

It says it cannot support the suggestion that decisions on criminal legal aid should be transferred to the new Legal Aid Board, which is to take over the £460 million-a-year scheme. That would lead to greater delay and administrative expense, which could have an adverse effect on the prison population.

Nor does it support the proposal to give opposing parties in civil legal aid cases the right to challenge the giving of legal aid to their opponents. That would add to delays.

Overall, the committee says that although there is much in the Government's proposals it welcomes, it has "considerable reservations on others" because it doubts if they will prove cost-effective or improve efficiency.

"It is our hope that the benefits produced by the drastic changes which are envisaged will outweigh the disadvantages which we have identified."

The committee calls for measures to encourage people to take legal advice.

Some people were still "unaware of their legal rights and remedies and of the role of the civil courts. We think that it is vital that steps be taken to remedy this state of affairs."

Courts should promote the benefits to be gained from seeking legal advice and should direct litigants to local sources of such advice.

Court procedures should be simplified and made more comprehensible to litigants through the use of standard forms and training for court staff in helping people with problems.

The committee also says that in cases where legal aid is not available, there should be an unlimited right to the lay representative of the litigant's choice, subject to the power of the court to ban unsuitable or unscrupulous advocates.

The Legal Aid Advisory Committee's report (Stationery Office, £12.40).

Sultan's Dragon gun has a new home



The cannon of Sultan Selim the Magnificent being positioned at its new home on the forecourt of the British Museum in London yesterday. It was stored at Tower Armories in London before the transfer. The date on the gun barrel, 1524/25, corresponds with the expedition, commanded by Selim, the Magistral's Grand Vizier, Ibrahim Pasha, who was sent to subdue Egypt in 1524. The cannon was captured by the

British Navy from the French after the Battle of Alexandria in 1801 and was mounted on a carriage made at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. The barrel has 16 sides and is almost 16ft long. An inscription near the muzzle reads:

"The Solomon of the age, the Great Sultan commanded the Dragon Gun to be made. When they breathe roaring like thunder, may the enemy's forts be razed to the ground."

(Photograph: John Rogers)

Concern at alarm-free post offices

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Raid on sub-post offices rose by 17.5 per cent last year yet fewer than one in four has an outside intruder alarm, MPs were told yesterday.

There were 341 burglaries and more than 200 robberies, Mr Alban Morgan, National Federation of Sub-Postmasters' general secretary, told the Commons Trade and Industry Committee. Intruders carried guns in half of them.

Counter assistants were often attacked and many suffered prolonged mental trauma.

Mr Morgan, who represents 19,500 sub-postmasters, said the figures were "very alarming", particularly as raids had fallen the previous year. While most sub-post offices had alarms on safes or beneath counters, 78 per cent had no intruder alarm on external doors or windows.

The Post Office provided 50 per cent grants towards installation and maintenance, but that left sub-postmasters with an initial £250 bill. For many, that was too much.

MPs investigate oil companies

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Petrol pricing and trading practices used by the big oil companies are to be investigated by MPs.

The move comes in the wake of criticism of high pricing in big cities and coincides with an independent survey that discloses that four star petrol is up to 12p more expensive in some parts of the country.

The investigation is to be carried out by the Trade and Industry Select Committee.

Eso said the investigation was appropriate to satisfy public interest but previous reports had shown that there was no collusion on pricing by the big companies.

Britain's most expensive four-star petrol is sold in Dundee, Scotland, where motorists pay an average of 176p a gallon, while the cheapest is found in Nottingham.

Local competition and high transport costs account for much of the variation.

There is only one petrol refinery in Scotland so supplies have to be transported by coastal tanker or pipeline, but supply lines to stations in South Wales and the North-east are short and that is reflected in pump prices. In Nottingham, prices are low because of fierce competition between hypermarkets which sell a high proportion of petrol in the area.

The greatest variation across the country is in the price of diesel. The most expensive, at 161p a gallon, is sold in Plymouth, and the cheapest, at 150p a gallon, in Liverpool.

The study by Runzheimer Europe, management consul-

tants, is based on the average prices charged by petrol stations at 30 locations in Britain.

However, motorists will still find isolated garages where petrol is priced at 150p a gallon and lower because owners will have bought cheap surplus supplies.

Big differences in prices are not exclusive to Britain. Americans pay the equivalent of 92p a gallon for unleaded petrol in Washington DC and 75p for it in New York.

However, it is a long drive to find the cheapest petrol in the world, in Quito, Ecuador, where it costs just 29p a gallon, compared with 34p in Cairo, 46p in Kuwait, 59p in Warsaw, 223p in Paris, 234p in Dublin, and 278p in Rome and Tokyo; but the most expensive petrol, at 312p a gallon, is found in Abidjan in the Ivory Coast.

PETROL PRICES

	2*	4*	Diesel
Aberdeen	1.70	1.74	1.59
Aylesbury	1.65	1.69	1.50
Belfast	1.67	1.71	1.59
Birmingham	1.65	1.67	1.52
Bournemouth	1.66	1.69	1.52
Brighton	1.66	1.71	1.59
Bristol	1.65	1.68	1.53
Cambridge	1.69	1.72	1.59
Cardiff	1.65	1.68	1.55
Chelmsford	1.67	1.71	1.55
Covey	1.65	1.68	1.59
Dundee	1.71	1.75	1.59
Edinburgh	1.70	1.74	1.61
Glasgow	1.70	1.73	1.57
Goucester	1.64	1.67	1.56
Leeds/Bradford	1.64	1.67	1.56
Leicester	1.62	1.67	1.57
Liverpool	1.68	1.70	1.49
Londrina	1.67	1.69	1.59
Manchester	1.65	1.68	1.59
Midlands	1.62	1.66	1.54
Milton Keynes	1.68	1.71	1.57
Newcastle	1.65	1.67	1.55
Norwich	1.64	1.67	1.59
Nottingham	1.59	1.63	1.50
Oxford	1.63	1.68	1.58
Plymouth	1.66	1.69	1.60
Reading	1.65	1.68	1.59
Sheffield	1.65	1.68	1.52
Southampton	1.65	1.69	1.54
Stoke-on-Trent	1.65	1.68	1.58
Swansea	1.64	1.67	1.51
Swindon	1.67	1.71	1.59

Homosexual disclosure

Judge 'victim of blackmail'

By David Sapsed

A barrister who was forced to resign as a judge after disclosures about his private life alleged yesterday that he had been the victim of a blackmail plot.

Mr Martin Bowley, QC, who was chairman of the Bar Committee last year, said he was obliged to resign as a Crown Court Recorder for the South-east because details of his homosexual affair with a shop proprietor from Loughborough, Leicestershire, were published in *The Sun* newspaper yesterday.

The newspaper had obtained copies of letters sent by Mr Bowley, aged 52, to the man. In a statement issued by his chambers at King's Bench Walk yesterday, Mr Bowley said: "These letters were stolen by a blackmailer from the

man to whom they were sent. When he refused to comply with the (blackmailer's) demands, the blackmailer sent the letters to *The Sun*."

"I have always attempted to conduct my personal life with the utmost discretion and have ensured that my professional and judicial duties have never been compromised. Although I remain convinced that this has always been achieved, I decided last week, in view of the likely publicity, that I should immediately tender my resignation as a recorder."

The Lord Chancellor's Department said yesterday that the letter had been received. "The Lord Chancellor has not seen it yet and so we cannot say whether Mr Bowley's resignation has been accep-

ted", a spokesman said.

Mr Robert Johnson, QC, chairman of the Bar Committee, said yesterday that he greeted the news of Mr Bowley's resignation with "great sadness".

He said: "Martin Bowley has given devoted service on the Bar Council, and the Bar will always be grateful for what he has achieved". The council said there had been no move to replace him on the Bar Committee.

Mr Bowley was a leading member of the Campaign for the Bar organization, which ran a successful challenge in elections to the council. It adopted a union-like stance on fees for publicly funded work and was opposed to moves by solicitors for advocacy rights in the courts.

People's lives on a knife-edge

The rains have failed farmers in Ethiopia once more. People face the threat of hunger and starvation. Many could die if help doesn't reach them.

Oxfam is urgently providing emergency food to distribution centres where destitute families can collect it and return to their villages, ready to prepare their fields for harvest in October.

People's lives are on a knife-edge. Emergency aid is getting through, but there is a real danger that food will run out.

Just £10 from you could feed a family for one month.

Oxfam urgently needs to buy more food, seeds and tools and heavy duty trucks for Ethiopia.

With your help many lives can be saved and a major catastrophe averted. Please give as generously as you can.

PEOPLE IN ETHIOPIA URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP



An Ethiopian farmer in his sorghum field shows his withered crop.

YES, I want to give:
☐ £10, ☐ £30, ☐ £50, ☐ £100, £
 to help Oxfam's work in Ethiopia.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____

Send to Oxfam, Room TM90, FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR.
 Or phone (0865) 56916
 to donate by CREDIT CARD.



Oxfam works with poor people in their struggle against hunger, disease, exploitation and poverty in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle-East through relief, development, research and public education.

Staffing deal leads to ITN office in Moscow

By Our Media Editor

An unprecedented staffing deal involving ACTT, the television technicians' union, has enabled Independent Television News to set up a Moscow office, which was officially opened yesterday.

The agreement allows for a two-man crew, with full flexibility between the two technicians, both of whom can operate the camera, act as a sound recordist and tape editor.

Union chiefs have previously demanded that such assignments should have a cameraman, recordist and editor, with each of the three crew members sticking rigidly to their jobs.

Mr Chris Groult, ITN's editorial manager responsible for

setting up the office, said yesterday: "The crewing arrangements in Moscow are the result of negotiations marked by a new mood of realism."

"The new agreement between ITN and ACTT for a two-technician crew, instead of three people, has enabled ITN to introduce the sort of flexibility which is becoming standard for world-wide television news agencies."

"It will help to spread the benefits of new technology to company and employee alike."

The two technicians, Mr Michael Borer and Mr Alan Thompson, are already in Moscow with Mr Ian Glover-James, a reporter.

Police papers blocked in 'wrong arrest' case

A Surrey teacher failed yesterday in a preliminary legal round of a court battle in which he is suing Surrey police for wrongful arrest for the murder of his woman friend.

A High Court judge in London ruled that David Evans, of Guildford, was not entitled to see police documents sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions which led the DPP to authorize police to charge Mr Evans with murder.

Mr Justice Wood said Miss Glensy Coe was found murdered in a Guildford car park in August 1984. Mr Evans was arrested the following month, released, re-arrested in October, then released again. The following March the DPP authorized the murder charge.

The day after that authorization, a man called

Stephen Doyle was arrested in Essex for rape. He admitted murdering Miss Coe and was convicted in January, 1986.

The judge said Mr Evans was suing the Chief Constable of Surrey for damages and exemplary damages for wrongful arrest and false imprisonment.

Mr Evans said he needed to see the documents relating to his arrest to enable him to assess the strength of his case.

At an earlier hearing in private, a High Court Master ruled that Mr Evans could see the reports. But yesterday Mr Justice Wood allowed an appeal by the chief constable against the ruling, saying it was important to have freedom of communication between police forces and the DPP. Law Report, page 38

Telling names for the marketing men

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Marketing men who claimed recently to have discovered that they could tell your age from your name now believe they can also work out with whom you are living.

If you are a Gary or Kevin you are two and a half times as likely as the national average to be living with a Sharon or a Lynn and 10 times as likely to be sharing a home with them as with a Hilma or Ethel.

Similarly, a Dorothy or Phyllis is twice as likely as the national average to be under the same roof with a Percy or Herbert and almost certainly will not be living with a Philip or Christopher.

Mature family female names such as Sylvia, Brenda, Joyce and Eileen are found

with equivalent male names such as Brian, Keith, Kenneth and Raymond.

The end result could be a dream come true for direct selling companies who will be able to be even more selective and successful in bombarding couples with junk mail tempting them to buy anything from holidays and life insurance to lawnmowers and cars.

The Monica system, launched by CACI market analysts last September, classifies forenames according to their age profile.

Thus, Pamela, Judith, Heather, Keith, Philip and Brian tend to be aged over 25 but under 44, while Joyce, Eileen, Kathleen, Eric, Frank

and Raymond usually fall into the 45 to 65 group.

Ethel, Hilma, Florence, Herbert, Percy and Cyril are invariably pensioners. About three quarters of adults have a first name which is a strong indicator of likely age group, the analysts say.

The marketing experts have now developed the system after analysing the combinations of names found in family households throughout Britain and discovering the extent to which certain names "marry up".

In its simplest terms that means if there is a Herbert, who is usually in the retirement category, living with an Ethel and sharing the same surname, a couple of married

pensioners have almost certainly been identified.

The likely spending power of the couple can be easily discovered, analysts say, by the type of household in which they live, making it easy for direct mail users to identify the particular audience they are seeking.

That enables direct selling organizations to pick off with high accuracy young family households living in modern homes or retired couples in better but older homes.

The direct mail industry believes that by aiming the right message to the right people, the response rate will soar and public annoyance with unwanted direct mail will decline.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Ukrainian KGB in fresh scandal

Moscow — *Pravda* reported yesterday that a big corruption scandal involving the possible torture by the KGB of an honest police officer investigating party irregularities and the theft of state property in the Ukraine had been uncovered. (A Correspondent writes). The scandal is the second in a year to rock the KGB in the Ukraine and *Pravda* implied that the latest scandal may reach all the way up to Justice Ministry and police officials in Moscow.

Pravda said the scandal was revealed in a report by the party's watchdog, the Control Commission. It found that the KGB was guilty of "crudely violating the established and regular rules on the detention of persons under investigation and of work with them". In the past, such allegations indicated that torture was used in interrogation.

The scandal stems from an attempt to short-circuit an investigation in official corruption by A. V. Malyshev, a police officer who headed a unit investigating the theft of state property.

Angolans besieged Nunn on offensive

Johannesburg — The highly strategic southern Angolan town of Cuito Cuanavale was reported yesterday to be under fierce attack from UNITA rebels and South African artillery, and its fall appeared imminent, according to Western diplomatic sources in Harare, the Zimbabwe capital (Ray Kennedy writes).

Cuito Cuanavale is the main air and logistics base for Luanda's forces in southern Angola. Its fall would give UNITA virtual control of Cuito Cuanavale province.

According to the Mozambican news agency, Aina, the Cuban Air Force has become involved for the first time in the fighting — its aircraft had struck "on a massive scale" against South African forces last Friday.

Cambodia talks open

Paris — The Prime Minister of Cambodia, Mr. Hun Sen, announced here last night that the question of Vietnamese troop withdrawals from Cambodia had been discussed at a meeting with Prince Sihanouk, the head of the resistance coalition, in a suburban hotel (Susan MacDonald writes). The talks on trying to find a solution to the nine-year conflict in Cambodia are likely to continue today and tomorrow.

Prince Sihanouk, the country's former ruler, has made it clear that he would like to see a definite withdrawal timetable for the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

Dismissal £417,000 for judge Aids case

Boston (AP) — The judge who illegally released from jail Jorge Luis Ochoa Vazquez, whom United States authorities accuse of being Colombia's cocaine smuggling godfather, has been dismissed.

Judge Andres Montanez, who signed a writ of habeas corpus freeing Ochoa from La Piedad prison on December 31, was removed from the bench by a higher court.

The United States had been trying to have Ochoa extradited to face charges of smuggling cocaine when he was freed. He was serving a 20-month sentence for illegally importing fighting bulls from Spain into Colombia.

Ambassador blamed

Washington — Mr. Arthur Hartman, left, the former US Ambassador to Moscow, was blamed by a presidential panel for the misconduct of Marine Guards at the embassy last year, according to a confidential report (Michael Binyon writes). But Mr. Hartman said that its conclusion, after claims that guards got sexual favours from women KGB agents and were blackmailed into letting the KGB into the embassy, was "very unfair".

Reagan's last year

A President looks to his legacy

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan, who turns 77 on February 6, yesterday began his final year in office — with only 10 months left before his successor is elected. Despite his age and the severe setbacks of the previous year, he is planning a vigorous end to a presidency that commands impressive popular support, but whose final legacy remains uncertain.

"As they say in 'showbiz', let's bring them to their feet with our closing act," he told cheering supporters in an emotional speech on Tuesday. Mr. Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said: "Reagan's last year will be more productive than the height of the New Deal."

Several issues will dominate Mr. Reagan's final year: arms control talks and the proposed Moscow summit; the search for peace in Central America; and the intractable US budget crisis. On all these, Mr. Howard Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, has promised an engaged and active presidency. Dismissing all talk of a "lame-duck" finish, he insists that Mr. Reagan still has a full agenda and favourable conditions to complete the job.

Mr. Baker probably is right. Several things have combined to restore to the President some of his old spirit and popularity, and may enable him to rebound from the disasters of 1987.

First, his own family worries have diminished. His health is good, his wife has made a good recovery from her mastectomy, and he has regained some of the sunny confidence of earlier days. Secondly, the pressure on him over the Iran-Contra affair has lessened. The country has moved on to other business. And although there is still disapproval and widespread scepticism over Mr. Reagan's own role, the opposition has been deflected, resting instead on the hapless Vice-President George Bush.

Thirdly, the White House, under Mr. Baker's pragmatic Mr. Baker, has accepted the reversal of political fortunes and has settled for a policy of co-operation with the Democratic-controlled Congress, instead of its earlier confrontation.

Most importantly, the President has largely resolved the ideological conflicts within his Administration. The wholesale departure of the hardline conservatives — especially from the Pentagon — and their replacement by more sen-

sioned pragmatists, has done much to end the bitter infighting which long paralyzed policy-making.

At the same time Mr. Reagan has finally cut himself free from his more strident, right-wing supporters, moving to the political centre in the search for consensus policies.

Nevertheless, his convictions remain strong, especially on Central America, and he is still determined to fight for military aid to the Contras.

It is one of the few remaining ideological battles of his presidency. Today he is expected to prepare a request for some \$100 million (\$56.5 million) which he would like Congress next week. And he remains unconvinced that Nicaragua will make anything but cosmetic concessions to democracy.

Mr. Reagan's main foreign policy focus, however, will be on securing a Start treaty on strategic arms. He has been buoyed by the success of the last summit, and is now determined to prove that his entire policy of negotiating from strength was right from the outset.

Though he has not abandoned his vision of a space-based defence, making nuclear arms obsolete, he seems less intent now on pushing this to a point of confrontation with Congress.

The high point will come with his visit to Moscow in the summer: something of enormous symbolic importance to a President who has long resented his old image as a trigger-happy cowboy. His crowning achievement may be a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan: a pointed contrast to the end of President Carter's term, which saw the Soviet invasion.

Finally, there is the budget deficit. Mr. Reagan will still pursue his fruitless quest for a "line-item" veto, and still shows visceral opposition to higher taxes.

Mr. Reagan needs luck and calm waters to sail to the end of his presidency. Things could go very wrong if a recession gathers momentum, if the Middle East or the Gulf blows up, or if there are further scandals within his Administration.

But by the summer Mr. Reagan will be able to return to that part of his job he has always enjoyed most: campaigning for the Republicans.

Once a candidate has been nominated — and it is already clear that Mr. Reagan would like to see Mr. Bush in that position — the President will summon up his energy for a last stump through the country. He will trumpet all the past achievements, tell his jokes, bask in the applause in a last hurrah. And if the Republicans win, his own legacy seems assured.

Hopes of brighter future for Jewish refuseniks

By Mary Dejevsky

Confirmation this week that an Israeli consular delegation will visit Moscow has combined with the arrival in Tel Aviv of Mr. Josef Begun, the refusenik who waited 17 years to leave the Soviet Union, to raise hopes of progress on one of the most emotive issues in Israeli-Soviet relations — Jewish emigration.

The new mood of optimism has been bolstered in recent weeks by hints from influential Jewish groups in the West that they might be prepared to take a more flexible approach to the problem.

If the present increase in emigration is sustained and conditions for Jews to practise their religion inside

the Soviet Union improve, they indicate, the need to leave may become less urgent.

Soviet and Western Jewish groups believe that, ideally, any Jew should be free to leave the Soviet Union and settle in Israel. The number of Jews who have invitations to leave is put at 400,000 — in addition to the estimated 250,000 who have been allowed to go since the first wave of emigration during the 1970s.

Some Jews concede that the actual number of those who would be willing and able to leave the Soviet Union immediately, if offered the chance, is probably considerably lower. An annual figure of about 30,000 has been mooted, bringing a

total of 150,000 over five years. Per annum, this is only slightly higher than the figure of those permitted to leave when emigration was at its height.

The Soviet authorities may be relieved to see a degree of flexibility among Western Jewish groups — and perhaps, as a result, be encouraged to make emigration a little easier. But for many in the West and in Israel, the issue is more complex.

For some, it is a matter of human rights — that all people should be free to leave their own country, whether to travel or settle elsewhere, and that there should be no let-up in pressing for this. For others, particularly in Israel, there is a double issue: the

principle that all Jews should be able to settle in Israel and the longer-term good of the Jewish homeland.

Many Israelis argue that recognition by Moscow of the right of all Jews to emigrate to Israel, or at very least a significant increase in emigration, is a condition for the restoration of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

Moscow broke its ties after the six-day Arab-Israeli war in 1967. A year ago, however, this became a political issue in Israel when Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, argued that linking the two questions made Soviet Jews tantamount to hostages.

But Soviet Jewish immigration is

welcome to Israel for another reason: it helps to boost the proportion of European Jews in the population.

According to latest Israeli figures, 43 per cent of Israel's 3.5 million Jews are of Asian or African origin, with 38 per cent European and 18 per cent native-born Israelis. The Soviet Union is the only country which could still supply a further large influx of European Jews to tip the balance.

The problem for Israel is that an increasing number of Soviet Jews are choosing not to settle in Israel. Of the 8,000 Jews who left the Soviet Union last year, only 25 per cent went to Israel. The majority went to the United States.

Midnight raid across Lebanese border by Palestinian guerrillas

Israeli Army kills three intruders in fierce battle

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

As violence in the occupied territories shows signs of subsiding for the first time in six weeks, a three-man Palestinian commando succeeded in cutting its way through the border fence from south Lebanon early yesterday morning before being wiped out in a short, fierce gun battle with Israeli troops.

It was the first time in almost a year that any infiltrator has succeeded by land in getting across the Israeli-controlled strip inside Lebanon and reaching the electronic fences and barbed wire along the border. In almost the same place as on the previous occasion, the men managed to cut through the wire about a mile south of the border kibbutz at Menara, on the

Beirut (Reuters) — Lebanese Shia Muslims yesterday lifted a three-year siege of Beirut's Palestinian refugee camps, witnesses reported. Hundreds of Amal militiamen and troops of the Army's Sixth Brigade, which is predominantly Shia, withdrew from positions around the battered Shatila and Ras al-Najrah camps in south Beirut. The Amal men went to barracks in the Syrian-controlled west of the capital.

road which runs along a high mountain ridge due west of Kiryat Simona.

It was on the other side of this ridge, some five miles to the east, that a Palestinian hang-glider pilot flew into Israel last November, killing six soldiers before being killed himself.

Yesterday's incursion only lasted minutes. Although the three managed to get into Israel, they appear to have been picked up by sophisticated border tracking equipment while they were still in Lebanon. Having cut through the fence, they reached the ridge road and climbed a low embankment to hide as they heard the Israeli platoon sent to find them approaching.

The platoon opened fire at the embankment and the Palestinians returned fire, betraying their exact position on a low hill about 30 yards from the border fence.

The platoon then charged forward. Although the Palestinians threw two grenades

and fired a missile at the soldiers, wounding one seriously, they were quickly overwhelmed. "We charged at them and finished them off at close range," one of the platoon told Israeli radio.

The three were dressed in blue jeans and khaki jackets. Two were in their late teens and the other in his mid-twenties. They were heavily armed.

Because they were in civilian clothes and had tried to hide from the army patrol, military sources here assume their aim was to attack a civilian target. Seven years ago at Migdalim, just two miles to the north, Palestinian gunmen succeeded in breaking into the kindergarten and holding children hostage before killing them.

An investigation has opened into how the three managed to get through the so-called "security zone" inside Lebanon.

Beirut radio has claimed that the three were members of al-Fatah, the military wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Defence Minister, said in a radio interview that this proved the PLO, despite its claims, did not just support public disorder, but resorted to terror whenever there was an opportunity.

Inside the refugee camps the "success" of armed Palestinians reaching Israel is bound to give a moral boost in the same way as occurred with the hang-glider attack. Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, has admitted that he played a big part in inspiring the disturbances.

From the Israeli Army's point of view, the incident has also provided a moral boost after the hang-glider attack in which the guard at a camp gate ran away. The commander of the Army in the north, Major-General Yossi Peled, was quickly on the scene to congratulate the platoon for their fearless charge which, he said, was in the best traditions of the Israeli Army.

Orders yesterday from Mr. Rabin to use "force, power and beatings" to break up demonstrations, rather than use weapons, are being obeyed but are said not to be popular.

Argentine joy at mutiny's defeat

Nation salutes loyalist troops

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires

President Alfonsín of Argentina is riding on a wave of national jubilation at his military, moral and political victory over a band of mutinous army officers.

Since the three-day insurrection was crushed on Monday, troops loyal to the Government have basked in a rare outburst of approval from Communists, Peronists, ultra-rightists, civil groups, the entire labour movement and civilians who have taken to the streets in celebration.

Not since the Falklands were invaded in April, 1982, has the military had such approval from a civilian population that, overall, still loathes and distrusts them.

"This is the first time in my life that I've been happy to see soldiers in the street," an elderly woman observed as she served troops with tea in

the small north-eastern garrison town of Monte Caseros, where the centre of the rebellion was situated.

Television shows loyal troops sitting on Sherman tanks in the rain-soaked streets, giving the thumbs-up sign to townspeople. The story has been the same in other towns across Argentina, although Buenos Aires itself has been surprisingly phlegmatic and unresponsive to this remarkable display of common purpose between civilians and the armed forces.

President Alfonsín's authority, which has taken several grave blows, has been reinforced by the triumphant outcome of the second attempted insurrection in nine months by the cashiered Lieutenant-Colonel Aldo Rico. "Democracy in Argentina is now assured," the

President has been emphasizing all week.

From his confinement in the top-security Magdalena military prison in Buenos Aires, where he awaits trial, Colonel Rico is far from contrite. "The Argentine people want a lion in the barracks, not politicians," he said shortly before surrendering to loyalist troops. He is quoted as telling prison guards that he gave up in order to prevent the deaths of officers who "in the end belong to the same Army".

Colonel Rico, aged 44, with his dark glasses and beret cocked arrogantly to one side, is the epitome of the jingoistic young officers who are fiercely contemptuous of the "old guard" military high command that lost the Falklands War.

He insists that the killing of

9,000 civilians during the "dirty war" campaign against a left-wing insurgency in the late 1970s and early 1980s was justified and that the military should not have to atone for it.

Although the Army is clearly frustrated, demoralized and bitter at being "persecuted" for past actions, even this week have demonstrated forcibly that there is no foreseeable danger of a military coup. President Alfonsín looks reasonably assured of becoming Argentina's first civilian President in 60 years to hand power to an elected successor when his six-year term expires late next year.

Colonel Rico's rebellion sparked mutinies in five army garrisons, all of which surrendered with little bloodshed. Sixty officers and 222 NCOs have been detained.

Leading article, page 13

Witnesses in human rights trial killed

From Martha Honey, San José

An international human rights court has demanded that the Honduran Government take steps to ensure that no more witnesses are killed in a case in which it is accused of human rights violations.

The Inter-American Human Rights Court, a judicial body of the Organization of American States, issued an order on Tuesday giving Honduras two weeks to show what steps are being taken to in-

vestigate murders of witnesses and how those that remain are being protected.

The move came after prosecution lawyers complained that their witnesses were being systematically murdered. "Our witness list is being turned into a death list," said Senior Juan Méndez, director of the Washington office of America's Watch, an organization monitoring human rights.

He is one of the lawyers prosecuting in a case in which

the Honduran Government is accused of responsibility for scores of politically motivated "disappearances". The trial here is the first time an international court has heard a case involving people who have "disappeared", often political activists who simply vanish.

Senior Miguel Angel Pavón, a Honduran human rights activist who had testified for the prosecution, was killed with a fellow-activist near his home on Friday by gunmen on a

motorcycle. Two weeks earlier an army sergeant suspected of links to right-wing death squads was shot dead as he waited for a bus. The sergeant was to testify this week.

Senior Méndez said that at least two other witnesses had received death threats, including Dr. Ramón Custodio, head of the Honduran Human Rights Commission. Dr. Custodio, who returned to Honduras yesterday, said the ruling might help to protect him.

him. Senator Dole is accomplished in the art of managing Congress, even if his broader management skills are in doubt. He is widely regarded as a better Republican leader in the Senate than his predecessor, Mr. Howard Baker, now the President's Chief of Staff.

On the Democratic side, both Governor Michael Dukakis and former Governor Bruce Babbitt have successful records in state government.

Governors prove impressive

To my mind, these were the two most impressive performers in the televised debate in Iowa on Friday evening which is expected to have considerable influence on the critical caucuses there next month.

This may not be an election of memorable rhetoric and charismatic personality. But there is a better chance that the next President will be suited to the requirements of the time than is now appreciated by most Americans, and certainly by most people outside the United States. It is no use looking for someone who will avoid Mr. Reagan's failings and have all his strengths as well.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

interesting to say can be attributed partly to the way they are reported. It is difficult for any candidate to say something penetrating when his words are rarely conveyed at length to the general public.

Kennedy was elected to "get this country moving again" after the last, lethargic years of Eisenhower. Johnson succeeded to the White House on Kennedy's assassination, so he was an exception to the rule. Mr. Nixon was chosen in 1968 to get the United States out of the Vietnam morass into which Johnson had taken it.

Mr. Ford took over without being elected after the Nixon resignation, so that was another exception. Then Mr. Carter was elected to restore integrity after Watergate, and after him there came Mr. Reagan to provide tough leadership, in contrast to Mr. Carter's reputation for weakness.

President Reagan has been a brilliant communicator of great personal charm, strong on visions but weak on details. On this reckoning the next President should be someone who can keep a firm grip on the Administration.

The trouble is that managerial figures do not set the pulses racing. The only flamboyant characters in this contest are those who stand no chance of winning. But there are a number of competent managers on offer.

Vice-President Bush would bring much experience and a capacity for making people of ability work happily around

C&C Computers and Communications

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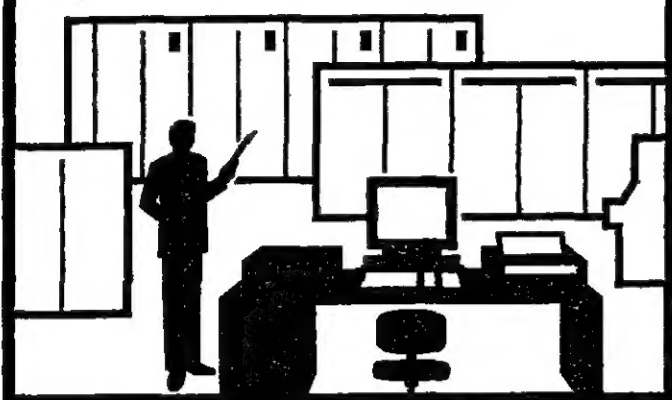
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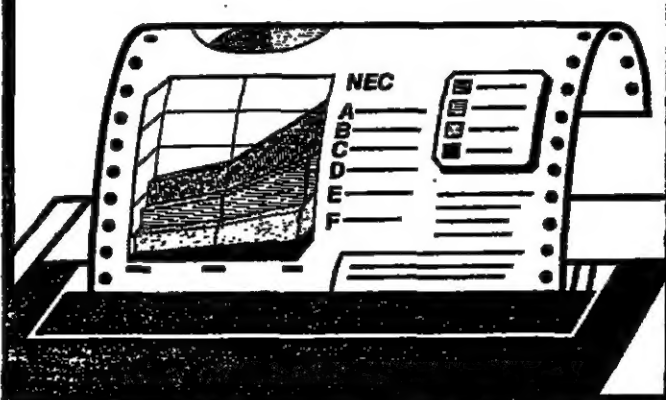
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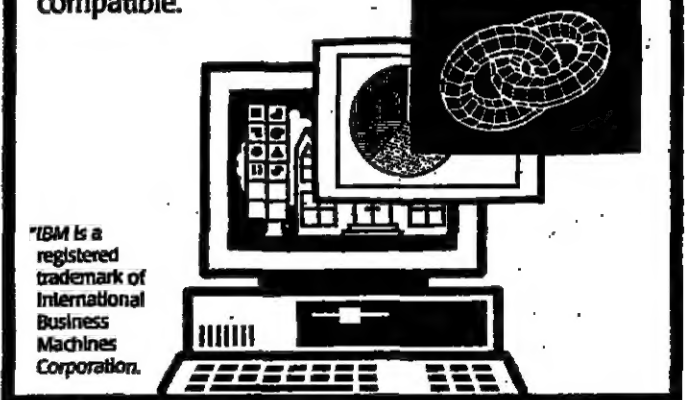
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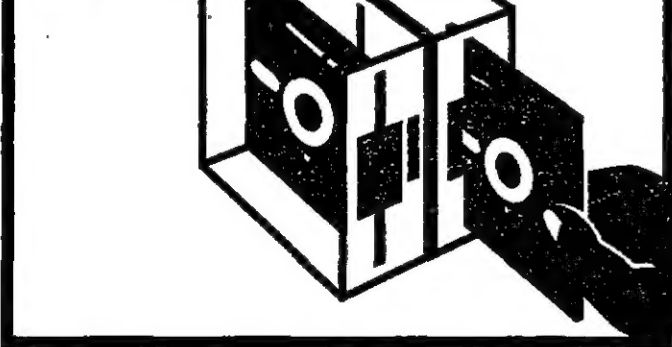
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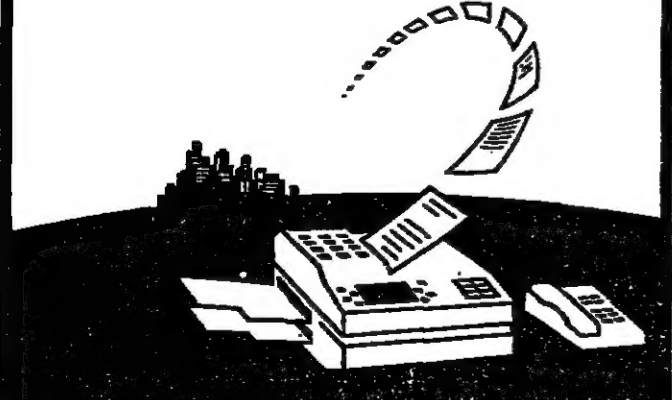
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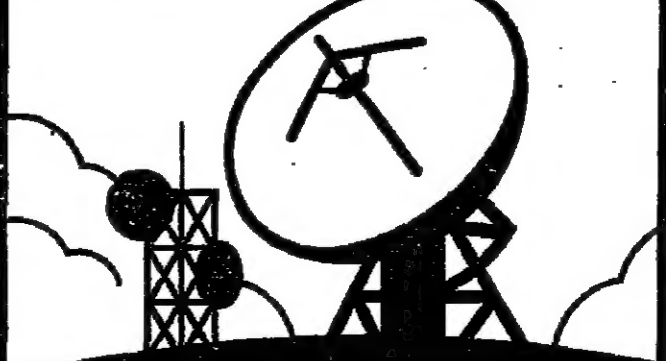
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Kabul's show of confidence

Najibullah says his forces can survive a Soviet withdrawal

From Christopher Walker, Kabul

President Najibullah, the Soviet-backed Afghan leader, claimed yesterday that Afghan security forces were capable of maintaining law and order in the event of a Soviet withdrawal in 1988. He also said he hoped this would be the last year of the Soviet Army's presence here.

His confident assertion was made at a news conference for the 19 reporters from 14 countries who had been invited to inspect the Kabul regime's claims to have broken the Muslim rebels' siege of Khosht.

Looking relaxed with five bodyguards on hand in a small top-floor conference room, the President praised what he described as "the daring" of the reporters who had accepted his invitation to fly to the garrison town. He did not seem concerned that many of them had found the military grip of the Afghan forces there precarious, and possibly only temporary.

Questioned by *The Times* about the date of May 1 given by *Providence* for the possible start of a Soviet withdrawal, President Najibullah said he hoped the next round of the United Nations peace talks with Pakistan (expected to open in February) would be the last.

"1988 should be the last year of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan," he added, using the Moscow euphemism coined to describe the occupying force estimated at 115,000 men. He went on to emphasize the capability of his own army to cope without Soviet backing, an assertion doubted by most Western diplomats based in Kabul.

"I can assure you that the brave armed forces of Afghanistan have been capable, and are capable, of controlling the situation in the country and providing for a peaceful life there," he claimed. Although

he has dismissed the idea of a UN peace-keeping force, the President said that small UN delegations could set up headquarters in both Pakistan and Afghanistan to ensure a peace treaty was kept.

Earlier during our trip—the programme of which was designed to play up the role of the Afghan Army and minimize what is, in fact, the crucial part of Soviet troops—Soviet sources in Kabul hinted strongly that a withdrawal (even if not complete) would begin whether or not the Geneva peace talks succeeded.

The sources, who asked not to be named but have a close knowledge of the Soviet military operation in Afghanistan since Mr Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in March 1985, said that the decision to pull back had been communicated to Dr Najibullah, and that this partly explained the new expectations which have arisen about the next round of the Geneva talks.

In addition to a timetable for withdrawal—which has to be decided in Geneva—the delegations have to agree how it will take place, what Western aid to the guerrillas will be stopped, and whether or not a rebel ceasefire will be a condition of the peace accord.

Western military experts here remain sceptical of the Kremlin's real intentions. Some fear that the Soviet side might be forcing the diplomatic pace for a Geneva agreement which could end the rebels to lay down their arms, but which would later break down, enabling the Soviet forces remaining to hit hard the weakened guerrillas.

During yesterday's hour-long question-and-answer session, the spruce dressed Afghan President stressed that his Government was non-Marxist and was committed to non-alignment after a Soviet withdrawal. He told one re-

porter that Afghanistan would accept aid for postwar reconstruction from any quarter.

Despite being a self-proclaimed advocate of *glasnost*, the former head of Khad, the Afghan secret police, flatly refused to provide figures on casualties, or the size of the force which managed to break the intermittent nine-year siege of Khosht.

President Najibullah gave no hint that he was willing to make the concessions to the Afghan opposition forces which would lead to a viable coalition.

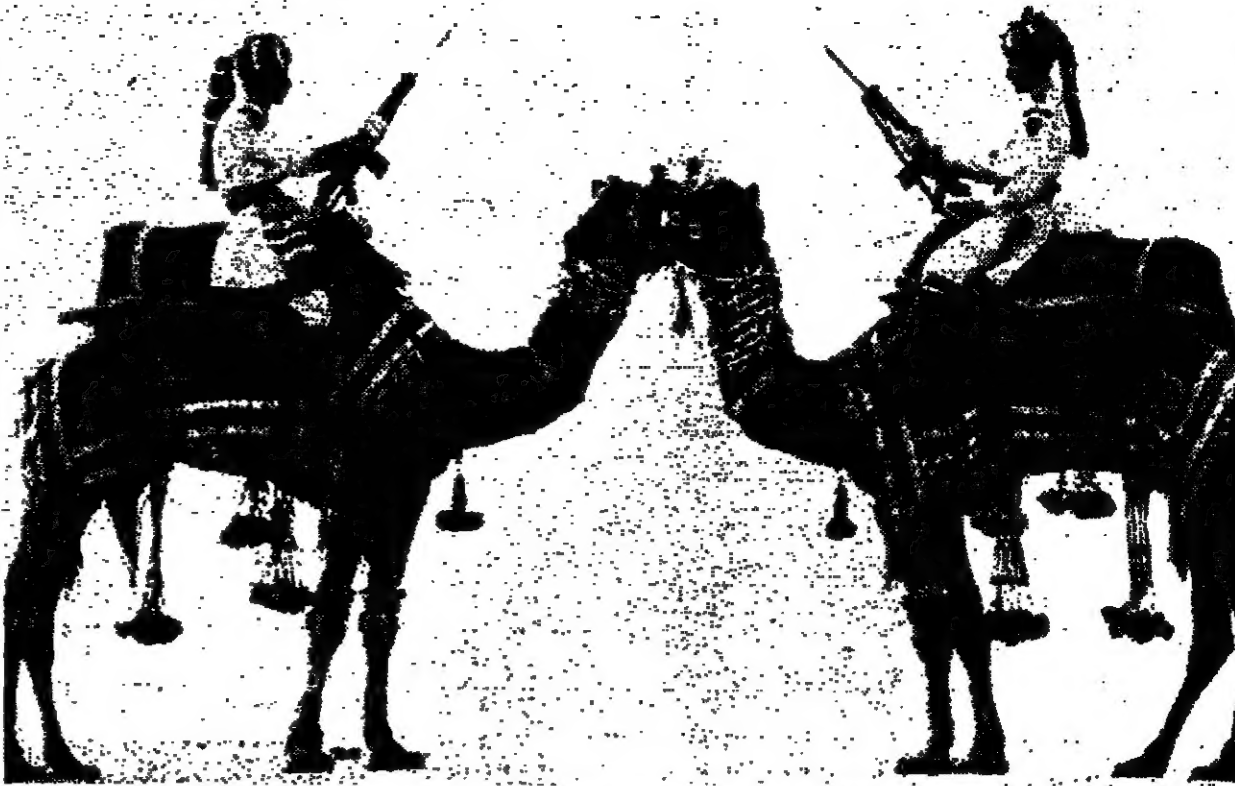
He insisted that, as his ruling People's Democratic Party (which has close links with Moscow) had been the "initiator and organizer" of the policy of national reconciliation, it would have to play the main role in any future government.

The President drove home this point—seen by many observers as the main stumbling block to a peaceful transition—by restating that he was prepared to allow opposition forces to hold the positions of Vice-President and Prime Minister as well as the leadership of some ministries. But he indicated his own party would retain control of the crucial defence and interior ministries, as well as retaining the presidency.

"Until he shows that he is prepared to give something up, I cannot see the idea of a coalition able to persuade the rebels to lay down their arms being formed," one diplomat explained.

President Najibullah, whose burly appearance has earned him the local nickname of "the Ox," revealed that his ailing predecessor, Mr Babrak Karmal, who had been accused of inciting violent factionalism in the ruling party, was in the Soviet Union "undergoing treatment."

Trooping the camels for Delhi's day



Indian border guards mounted on camels and armed with automatic rifles blocking road to the presidential palace in Delhi yesterday. The guards were taking part in preparations for the military parades which will mark the 38th anniversary, on January 26, of India's becoming a republic in 1950. The domed palace in the background was once the vice-regal residence of the last Viceroy, the late Lord Mountbatten, until Indian independence in 1947.

Death of fighter against British Raj

Gandhi pays tribute to Pathan hero

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, has flown to Pakistan to pay his last respects to the veteran independence hero, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who died yesterday.

It is Mr Gandhi's first visit to Pakistan since becoming Prime Minister three years ago. He was to return to Delhi after spending about an hour offering his condolences to relatives and paying homage to Khan Ghaffar Khan.

In Kabul yesterday, President Najibullah of Afghanistan said at a news conference that Khan Ghaffar Khan, who was believed to be aged 96, was "an outstanding militant of the sub-continent."

The Pathan leader of the North West Frontier Province, who was known as the "Frontier Gandhi" and was the oldest known surviving freedom fighter against the British Raj in India, died in a Pesh-

war hospital after a long illness.

Loved by the Pathans on both sides of the Durand Line dividing Afghanistan and Pakistan, Khan Ghaffar Khan was for the last 40 years *persona non grata* with Pakistani governments after his bitter rejection of the partition of India and the creation of Pakistan.

He had asked to be buried in Afghanistan, and his followers in Peshawar are arranging to take his body to Jalalabad, about 110 miles inside Afghanistan, tomorrow.

Deeply influenced by Mahatma Gandhi's politics and philosophy of non-violence, Khan Ghaffar Khan lost his seat in the first constituent assembly of Pakistan in 1948, and was labelled as being anti-Pakistan. His brother, Dr Khan Sahib, was removed as the province's Cabinet chief.

Despite a persistent official smear campaign, the tall, fatherly figure continued to inspire generations of Pathans. He also commanded a substantial following of intellectuals and left-wing politicians in Pakistan, although he never joined a political party.

Khan Ghaffar Khan's political style was not tolerated in either his home province or in Pakistan itself, and he spent

almost a third of his post-independence life behind bars or under house arrest.

In India, he enjoyed a special position in political circles. He was the guest of the Delhi Government several times, the last being in August 1987, when he became seriously ill.

Mr Gandhi offered him treatment in Delhi. Although his doctors there said that he had recovered "sufficiently", Khan Ghaffar Khan did not regain full health and remained in hospital in Peshawar until his death.

His death occurred on the same day that Señor Diego Cordeiro, the UN special envoy, was due to arrive in Peshawar for what may be the final round of talks with the governments in Islamabad and Kabul to resolve the Afghanisthan crisis.

Khan Ghaffar Khan: Burial in Afghanistan.

Obituary, page 14

Islanders seek end to rule by Australia

Sydney — The Torres Strait island chain, stretching from the far northern tip of Queensland to Papua New Guinea, is seeking independence from Australia after 109 years (Keith Dalton writes).

A three-day meeting of 400 delegates, representing the islands' 25,000 predominantly Melanesian inhabitants, overwhelmingly endorsed a proposal to secede after long-standing complaints that land and fisheries had been heavily exploited and damaged.

Russians held

East Berlin (Reuters) — The crew of a Soviet tank was detained after six people died when an East German passenger train hit the tank.

Faked death

Paris (Reuters) — French police have arrested a businessman who allegedly confessed to faking his death in a car crash, using a tramp's body, to claim nearly £1.4 million from eight life insurance policies.

Judicial row

Rome (Reuters) — The judicial authorities provoked a controversy by not making Signor Giovanni Falcone, Italy's best known anti-Mafia magistrate, head of the investigating bench in Palermo, Sicily.

Banker fined

Vienna (AP) — Hannes Androsch, the former Finance Minister of Austria who heads the country's largest bank, was convicted of false testimony in an inquiry into a building funds scandal and fined 1.08 million schillings (£24,000).

Berlin purge

East Berlin (Reuters) — East Germany is clamping down on dissidents, starting proceedings against 31 people after a weekend protest, anti-government sources said.

Correction

The article on Japanese development of high-definition television (January 15) should have stated that 3,000 million of the 4,000 million yen (£16.7 million) investment is coming from the private sector, and not wholly from public funds.

West German diplomatic offensive

Genscher's assertive style upsets allies

From Richard Owen, Bonn

"West Germany is asserting itself in Europe and the world," in the words of one diplomat here.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, saw Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, off to Madrid on Tuesday, then travelled to Strasbourg to outline Bonn's plans for Europe during its six-month EEC presidency.

"It is no longer afraid to take the lead — vigorously," the diplomat said of Bonn's new assertive style of diplomacy.

Herr Genscher was then flying on to Washington to brief President Reagan today on the visit, by Mr Shevardnadze, and to present the Americans with a Soviet-West German statement calling for a global ban on chemical weapons.

Tomorrow he travels back across the Atlantic to Paris for celebrations marking 25 years of the postwar Franco-German treaty.

President Mitterrand of France observed this week in *Die Welt* that an assertion of national identity need not be confused with nationalism. Herr Genscher himself — Europe's longest-serving Foreign Minister — is taking on a new lease of life, taking advantage of the climate to develop a

new *Ostpolitik*, after his recent visits to East Europe.

In Strasbourg yesterday Herr Genscher urged Europe to agree on financial reform at the EEC summit next month and unite so that it could conduct a common foreign policy, something "clearly lacking".

The European Monetary System, despite the sceptics, had protected the EEC during stock market uncertainties, Herr Genscher said, but Europe would have been even

step by step," he said. "The time is right." Berlin — where, according to Mr Shevardnadze, there are "unusual possibilities" for East-West contact — was a symbol of this.

What worries Bonn's European allies on the other hand is that West Germany's new self-assertion is bringing it into conflict with other Europeans, and above all with Britain, just as the EEC and Nato are preparing crucial summit meetings in February and March.

Gorbachov message for González

Madrid — A personal message from Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, to Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, was handed over here yesterday by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister (Richard Wigg writes). Mr Shevardnadze, beginning a two-day visit to Spain, spent more than two hours with Señor González and was afterwards unexpectedly invited to stay to lunch. He will see King Juan

Carlos today. The Socialist Government is obviously flattered by Mr Shevardnadze's visit, only a week after Spain got the Americans to agree to withdraw their 72 F16 fighters from the country, a move praised by Moscow for its independent line. The contents of Mr Gorbachov's letter were not revealed, but Señor González's aides said Mr Shevardnadze might disclose some details at a press conference scheduled for today.

better forearmed if there had been full monetary union.

He called for a European central bank as a logical consequence of completing the internal market — Europe without frontiers — by 1992. Strengthened internally, Europe could adopt a security and defence dimension and work for détente.

"Our aim must be to overcome the division of Europe

In Nato, Bonn wants not only conventional force talks (on which the alliance is agreed) but also reductions in the short-range nuclear missiles left on German soil after the removal of medium and shorter-range missiles under the INF Treaty.

Mrs Thatcher, whose relations with Chancellor Helmut Kohl are already cool, sees this as the slippery slope to the

Western alliance and had no illusions about the Gorbachov reforms. "West Germany is not for sale," he said, adding that Bonn's ties with the East could not be at the expense of its links with Washington and Europe. Even President Mitterrand had acknowledged Bonn's special role.

None the less, Herr Genscher's remark in Strasbourg that the West would do

well to encourage Soviet reforms, in the hope they will lead to a "decrease in confrontation", may reinforce the impression that Bonn is "soft" on Moscow.

The West German press yesterday unanimously criticized Herr Kohl for being so eager for a summit with Mr Gorbachov that Moscow felt able to play "hard to get" and put it off until later.

In EEC affairs, officials said yesterday, as farm ministers adjourned without agreement, that Bonn's need to appease its farm lobby — due partly to Herr Kohl's fear of a rural backlash in forthcoming local elections — was hindering a solution.

Bonn favours "set aside" taking land out of production and compensating farmers, while Mr Thatcher wants automatic price cuts for farmers who over-produce, known as "stabilizers".

Herr Genscher acknowledged the need for market forces in hitherto subsidized European agriculture, but added that family farm incomes must also somehow be guaranteed. Mr Christopher Proust, leader of the Conservative Euro-MEPs, observed ironically that Bonn's desire to "cash in the blow" for its small and part-time farmers "must not be allowed to stand in the way of its obligation as the EEC presidency to strive for a compromise on CAP reform."

Delays signal problems for Taiwan's new President

From Robert Grievs, Taipei

A meeting of the Central Standing Committee of Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party was abruptly cancelled this week, fuelling speculation that the transfer of power to the successor of the late President Chiang Ching-kuo, who died last Wednesday, is not going as smoothly as government officials insist it is.

Mr Ma Ying-chiu, the party's youthful Deputy Secretary-General, denied at a news conference that there were any problems. "We just did not have a quorum for the meeting," he said. The meeting had been scheduled to take place on Tuesday.

Mr Ma's reply has raised more questions than it has answered. Why, for example, was the committee scheduled to meet in the first place? And why, at a politically sensitive time in Taiwan, would such a powerful political body lack a quorum?

In the past few days, reports of polls taken among Nationalist leaders reaffirming in the presidency Chiang's choice of Mr Lee Teng-hui, aged 65 and a native Taiwanese, have appeared in the local press, but have been denied by party spokesmen.

The apparent behind-the-scenes confusion contradicts the public statements of party officials that on Taiwan, unlike mainland China, the ruling party and its Constitution

have provided for a smooth transfer of power.

The appointment of Mr Lee as President is the result of a process which began in 1984, when Chiang picked Mr Lee to be Vice-President. Mr Lee was considered to be a good administrator, but politically naive and therefore above party factionalism, according to sources in Taipei.

Now it appears uncertain whether Mr Lee, a liberal, will be named party chairman, a post previously held by Chiang, or if the chairmanship will go to a yet more conservative man, such as Mr Yu Kuo-hwa, the Prime Minister.

"If President Lee is not named party chairman, his authority will be seriously weakened," Mr Stephen Lee, a lawyer and a founder of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party, said in an interview yesterday.

"President Lee is a party member and would have to abide by the party chairman's decisions, even though he is head of government."

Such political questions, far from being academic, will largely determine how fast Taiwan carries out the reforms begun by Chiang.

During the past year martial law on Taiwan has been lifted, opposition newspapers have been allowed to publish, and Taiwanese have been allowed to visit the mainland for the

first time in 39 years. In addition, two political parties opposing the Nationalists have sprung up, even though legislation legalizing them has not yet been approved.

Nationalist Party spokesmen say that the reforms indicate how quickly democracy is developing on Taiwan. Political opposition figures assert that Taiwan's relative diplomatic isolation, its growing number of demonstrations in favour of representative government, and calls for reform by liberal Nationalist Party members forced the late President Chiang to initiate changes.

In the next few months the Government intends to give workers the right to form unions and to strike, according to party officials. Such reforms, if not threatened by a conservative backlash, would go far beyond what the so-called reformist regime in Peking, led by Mr Deng Xiaoping, has yet attempted.

● Tariffs cut: The Legislative Assembly yesterday approved a proposal to cut import tariffs on about 3,500 items in an effort to open Taiwan's market wider (AP reports).

Taiwan now imposes a maximum tariff of 58 per cent on some imports. Under the Bill approved yesterday, this would be reduced to 30 per cent.

Russia will launch shuttle soon

From A Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Union, fresh from a successful test launch of the Energiya, a superheavy-lift booster rocket, plans to launch its own version of the space shuttle "in the nearest future" — a move that would further embarrass the US space programme, which has been bogged down since the Challenger disaster in January, 1986.

Mr Alexander Danayev, the chief of Glavkosmos, the commercial marketing arm of the Soviet space programme, said his country's shuttle, expected by Western experts to be used primarily for military purposes, was "close to the finishing line".

Soviet officials have made no secret of their desire to get their shuttle into space before the US can restart its troubled programme. The earliest the American shuttle is expected to fly again is in June this year.

Last May the Russians successfully tested a superheavy-lift rocket, the Energiya, which has 10 times the lift capability of their current heavy booster, the Proton.

Western diplomats who monitor the Soviet space programme say an unmanned shuttle launch could take place within the next few months.

Unlike the American version of the shuttle, which has no engines and glides to a "dead stick" landing, the Soviet

version is thought to have four jet engines.

Mr Danayev made his remarks at a press conference called to honour Commander Yuri Romanenko, the cosmonaut who returned to Earth on December 29 after a record-setting 326 days in space.

Looking healthy but pale, Commander Romanenko said his flight proved there were no physical limitations on the length of time man can spend in weightless space — an important consideration for a



Commander Romanenko describing his record 326-day space flight.

manned flight to Mars, which would take up to three years. Boredom was one of the biggest problems facing long-term space travellers, he added.

Commander Romanenko said that he actually felt better on his return to Earth after 326 days in space than he did following shorter trips of 96 days in 1978 and eight days in 1980.

Soviet space officials said improvements in methods to counteract the effects of weightlessness, such as a rigorous exercise regime and a special vitamin unit which stimulates Earth's gravity, have done much to extend the length of time man is capable of staying in orbit.

"Personally I can say we do not feel there are any limitations in this respect. We believe now that as a flight becomes longer, the effectiveness of the flight need not decrease," Commander Romanenko said. "Staying up in outer space for 300 days is not the limit. Weightlessness is a serious problem, you cannot get away from it, but it is possible now to counteract weightlessness and do it quite successfully."

The cosmonaut said he cherished the weekly radio and television link-up with his family, but he and his two successive partners on board the orbiting Mir space station sometimes dreaded the hourly contact with mission control. "Sometimes we got very bored with these frequent meetings, and we requested not to have them," he added.

Relief in Tokyo at success of US visit

From David Watts, Tokyo

Mr Noboru Takeshita completed the most important mission of any new Japanese leader when he arrived home from the United States.

Now that the pilgrimage has been accomplished without an important upset, there is an almost palpable sigh of relief in Japan: the visit has bought more time in its most important foreign relationship.

Mr Takeshita is also expected to visit Europe some time this spring, after Mrs Thatcher said publicly that she would welcome a visit.

This time the Japanese Government took care to see that almost all contentious issues, such as access for construction companies and agricultural imports, were defused before the Prime Minister reached Washington. But there was concern that Mr Takeshita might have a rough ride because his quiet, almost shy personality is so diametrically opposed to that of his predecessor, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, who seemed to

thrive on difficult diplomacy. Mr Takeshita passed the public relations examination, but the real test is the delivery on promises he made in the US — especially on access for American companies to Japanese public works projects.

Even his reputation as a consensus politician with excellent contacts is likely to be tested severely by the tasks he has set himself and his Government.

The construction industry in Japan, already worth more than £110 billion a year, will

be enormous in the next decade with the new Osaka international airport already under construction, plans to bridge Tokyo Bay and new underground expressways.

In his US talks Mr Takeshita committed himself to negotiations on access to a market where no foreign firm has ventured since outsiders were effectively excluded when Japan's first important expressways were built during the 1960s.

But, first, a formidable array of barriers over which the

Government has no control will have to be broken down: most Japanese sub-contractors refuse to work with foreign companies, construction labour is usually controlled by gangsters, and most construction firms are obliged to buy Japanese materials.

Already Mr Takeshita's undertaking has brought adverse reaction from the EEC, which claims that such a bilateral access agreement contravenes the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Though Japan has said it will respect a GATT ruling and lift restrictions on 10 farm products, the reaction of Japanese agriculture towards any liberalization of imports was made graphically clear last week. The Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives said then that it will cut purchases of US feed grain in retaliation for US efforts to open Japanese markets. It says it will buy a million tonnes of wheat from Argentina even if it proves more expensive.

Bertolucci in film row

Tokyo — Bernardo Bertolucci, the Italian director, has cancelled a visit to the opening here of his film *The Last Emperor*, because of a row over the Japanese version of documentary footage, including the "Rape of Nanking" in which Japanese troops killed thousands of Chinese (David Watts writes).

According to the Shochiku Fuji distribution company, 20

to 30 seconds were cut "because we sometimes get threats from audiences if we show those kind of cruel scenes".

That is a euphemistic expression for the reality that right-wingers would be sure to disrupt performances of the film if they felt it was disrespectful to the Emperor, or showed the Japanese war effort in a bad light.

SPECTRUM

Among the first convicts to set foot in Australia was a brickmaker... within 16 years he had laid the foundations of a nation

A builder in the wilderness

THE TIMES PROFILE

JAMES BLOODWORTH

Columbus earned an immortal reputation by making a voyage on which, it is said, he did not know where he was going, did not know where he was when he got there, and did it all on other people's money. Most of the first settlers of Australia were in much the same boat as Columbus, never wanted to go in the first place, and were rewarded not with renown but with ignominy.

The convict settlers who landed in Australia 200 years ago next week, were forgotten by history as promptly and comprehensively as history could contrive. Even such sturdy nation-builders as the brickmaker James Bloodworth were not thought of as pioneers worthy of the same place in the annals of the nation as others who had arrived later of their own free will. It is only in the last 20 years that most Australians have begun to look back on their country's penal origins with anything other than neglectful embarrassment.

But the story of the first settlement is one worth remembering. It was one of the most breathtaking experiments in social engineering ever attempted, and turned into our own Devil's Island, a scene of unspeakable brutality. But it was also a story of outcasts making good in the worst of circumstances, with infinite pain and dogged effort.

Those in charge of the First Fleet were well aware that they were engaged in an enterprise which might be historic, and left extensive journals and records — indeed, the fleet is almost a documentary Mary Rose. Some letters survive, often anonymous, from those few convicts who could write. But the records are haphazard, discontinuous and usually impersonal, and it is seldom possible to follow through the life of any one convict in any detail. We know more about James Bloodworth and his "concubine", Sarah Bellamy, than most, but still very little. Yet if one is to make a profile of the typical first settler, it really ought to be a convict rather than one of those in charge of them.

Of course the materials exist to produce an ample and uplifting profile of Commander Arthur Phillip, the leader of the expedition — bald and sheep-faced according to his portrait, but a most resourceful and enlightened man — a man beside whom many of his successors were arant buffoons or monsters.

Nobody ever thought to record Bloodworth's portrait. But it was

the sweat of the convicts that saved the new colony, and they deserve their due. Our brief scraps of information about Bloodworth can be filled out with information about his companions. They were mostly minor criminals of the most pathetic kind, driven by poverty to small thefts, with a few cattle thieves and small-time highwaymen thrown in. Serious criminals went to the gallows.

John Owen was convicted at the age of 14 for stealing a set of knives and forks valued at seven shillings. James Grace had stolen linen and a pair of silk stockings, and was only 11 when the fleet sailed. Isabella Rosson, 33, was a maker of mantuas (a fashionable loose cloak) and had been sentenced at the Old Bailey for stealing three pairs of bed-curtains. Dorothy Handford, an 82-year-old dealer in old clothes, had been convicted of perjury.

We do not know what Bloodworth was convicted of, at Kingston-upon-Thames in 1785. But Sarah Bellamy had stolen a linen purse ("value two pence", the charge noted) containing £30. She was sentenced at Worcester assizes in 1785, when she was 15 and a "spinster... in service".

The tale of their voyage is told in Robert Hughes's baleful history of the convict years, *The Fatal Shore*. There were 736 of them by the time the fleet arrived off Sydney Heads — 548 men and 188 women, under the charge of 292 marines and seamen. Only 43 men, women and children had died on the voyage — a phenomenally good record for those days.

They were not a very formidable collection of malefactors, as they were delivered in chains to the waiting fleet at Port Jackson, ragged, sick and half-broken by jail. These were the personnel for an expedition intended to colonize a new hemisphere. The plan had been to select young convicts, but the process hardly deserves the name of selection. As for the skills that would be needed to carve out a living in the bush, incomplete records show a diverse scattering of milliners, oyster-sellers, ivory-turners and glove-makers, but only a handful of gardeners, fishermen and weavers — all sure to become staple trades.

Two brickmakers, one bricklayer and one stonemason made up the entire recorded complement of workers with the skills



to put roofs over the colonists' heads. James Bloodworth arrived in his new continent with the inestimable advantage of a rare and essential skill.

The voyage was brutal. The conditions in the stinking hold of the ships were indescribably crowded and filthy, with interminable leisure for repentance and official and unofficial bullying. Bloodworth travelled in the Charlotte, Sarah Bellamy in the Lady Penrhyn. In the tropics, the heat aboard the Charlotte was so insupportable that an experiment was made of leaving the hatches open at night.

The surgeon noted with a curl of the lip that in spite of "the enervating effects of the atmospheric heat... the hatches could not be suffered to lay off, during the night, without a promiscuous intercourse immediately taking place between the women and the seamen and marines... the desire of the women to be with the men was so uncontrollable that neither shame nor the fear of punishment could deter them." It is typical of

the convict world that he puts it in a way which makes the seamen and marines sound like helpless victims of temptation.

As a whole, the voyage must have been a purgatory. But the arrival was a disillusionment. Captain Cook's expedition of 1770 had brought back reports of a balmey and fertile territory. In fact the land was a little worse than mediocre, but the expedition was so helplessly ill-equipped with the necessities of pioneering life — and, more important, the spirit for it — that for five years its members struggled on the brink of starvation. They had not so much as a plough, and had to work the thin soil with hoes.

Some did not survive those early days. Dorothy Handford, then aged 83, hanged herself from a gum-tree in Sydney Cove in the first year of the settlement. Seven-year-old Thomas Barrett was hanged within a month of their arrival, for stealing some butter, salt pork and dried peas.

To begin with they lived in tents or leaky wattle huts — with guards posted under orders to shoot any man trying to get into the women's quarters. There was little good

building timber, and they had few tools to work it with. Winter was coming on. What they needed was bricks.

Now it was that Bloodworth came into his own. Deposits of clay were sought and found. Makeshift kilns were made to fire the hand-moulded bricks. Mortar was more of a problem. There seemed to be no local source of lime — until it was realized that the continent's real first settlers, the Aborigines, had for uncounted millennia, gone to the promontory where the Opera House now stands, and picnicked on oysters.

He discarded shells had built up into a mountainous deposit, and convict women were set to gathering them, grinding them up and burning them. Enough lime was manufactured to allow Bloodworth to accomplish his masterpiece — a two-storey Government House with a pediment on the front and real glass window-panes.

Perhaps Sarah Bellamy was one of the shell-gatherers. All we know is that at some stage she and

Bloodworth established a relationship which was a marriage in all but name. A passing parson in 1806 categorized Sarah — along with two-thirds of the women and girls in the colony — as a "concubine". But this seems to have meant no more than that the liaison was without benefit of Anglican clergy. Regarding their captives as the scum of the earth was a common defence mechanism among those in authority.

In fact the couple seem to have been among the pillars of the community. Bloodworth was the colony's master-builder for 16 years, and Sarah bore him seven children. By 1805 the colony could boast a citadel, a judge's house, a parsonage, a brewery, a printing house, warehouses and a "convict playhouse".

This respectable conclusion was partly thanks to Captain Phillip. Faced with the task of founding a colony when the majority of his workforce were devoid of useful skills and in the last stages of demoralization, he saw the value of incentives. Officially, his job was to repress, but he could turn a Nelsonian blind eye to that. He gave a reward of 30 acres to

James Ruse, a farmer from Cornwall, who was the first convict to grow enough crops from the soil to feed himself. By 1819, Ruse owned 200 acres: a man of substance. And Phillip offered similar rewards of land to convicts who married, as well as sending pleas to England for more free settlers, and women convicts to improve the balance of the sexes. Australia's slow transformation from prison-camp to nation had begun.

When Bloodworth died of pneumonia in 1804, his standing in the colony was such that the Governor ordered him to be buried with military honours in gratitude for his services. The genes of the seven little Bloodworths are no doubt mingled in the inheritance of many who are today celebrating Australia's bicentennial. But the descendants of those unwitting benefactors who provided the oyster-shells to build Government House must be wondering what those celebrations have to do with them.

George Hill

The Fatal Shore by Robert Hughes (Collins Harvill, £15).

TOMORROW

Feeling down? The California Task Force to Promote Self Esteem sounds like a joke, but it might just have the answer

Keying in to an unlikely collector's item

The humming sound in the Hislop kitchen in Weybridge, Surrey, does not come from the oven or the woman working at the table nearby, but from a huge computer from which the family fortunes stem. Up steep suburban stairs, the master bedroom has become father Hislop's executive suite, enhanced by a reproduction of a Dutch skating scene, and a blank VDU.

This is no typical suburban household, but the powerhouse of Art Quest — publishers of the *Art Sales Index*, a two-volume annual of auction statistics — respected by art aficionados the world over, but hardly known to the collector in the street.

After a consolidation period of 20 years, entailing numerous updates of their system, and the saving off of a predatory American tycoon, the Hislops — father, mother, son and daughter — have just invested in the new computer, and are cooking up a number of new schemes.

Starting this month, their information will appear on Minitel, the telephone service in France; next month they publish their first Picture

Statistics are rarely seductive, but the Hislops turn them into an intriguing insight into the auction market

Price Guide, at an accessible £15; during the course of the year they will expand what they call their "Club Class services" — whereby statistics on artworks can be summoned by enquirers at the touch of a keyboard.

This week, Richard Hislop leads the British delegation at the International Database Conference in Australia, so the computer is in the hands of his son Duncan and the numerous local ladies who compile the figures.

"Our girls get quite angry at some of the things they call art," Duncan says, thumbing past Miro and Dalí in a Christie's catalogue. But as long as the prices fit within the criteria — more than £450 for

artfile
A weekly look at the art world

Sarah Jane Checkland

oil paintings, more than £350 for watercolours and drawings, and more than £2,000 for schools of painting — he includes them in the Index.

Starting out was an uphill struggle for Hislop senior — a computer management consultant. As his son says: "I suppose the auction houses couldn't see any benefit from it". Now auctioneers fight for inclusion the world over. Last year, the Hislops compiled statistics on 87,000 pictures.

Anything but seductive when seen in the raw, these statistics can provide insights into the art market found nowhere else. During last year in London, for example,



Art answers: Duncan Hislop and the authoritative Index

Sotheby's sold 10,407 items within the Hislops' categories, Christie's 5,899, Phillips 1,800 and Bonhams 1,300; the "big two" auction houses — Sotheby's and Christie's — sold more in New York during 1985 than they did in 1987.

One intriguing exercise, is to compare statistics for 19th century British and French

paintings sold in London. In 1977, 5,052 19th-century British paintings came under the hammer, selling for an average of £1,075 each, and to a total of £5.4 million. This compares with 7,622 sold during last year, at an average of £2,789 each, for a total of £21.8 million. But when it comes to French paintings, there are far

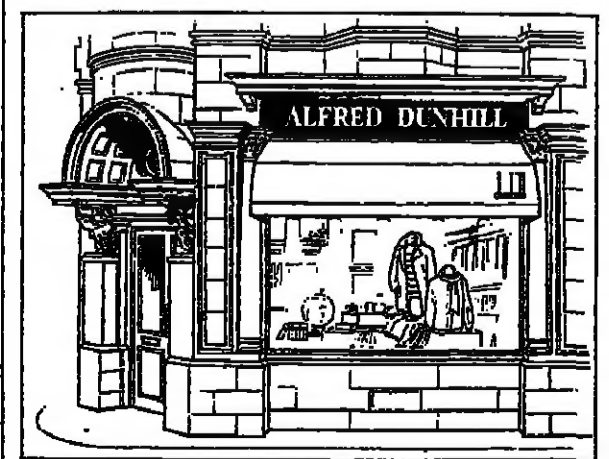
fewer being sold, but at much higher prices.

In 1977 for example, there were 2,903 sold, at an average of £4,192 each, to a total of £12.2 million. In 1987, the number sold has risen to 3,204, and their average price to £33,695.

Art Quest also registers newcomers to the art market, such as Paul Horninger, a German 20th-century artist who sold a landscape for £13,000 at Christie's last December; or it can help prove whether a given artwork is virgin on the market, as sellers often claim. But the biggest clients are insurance companies, who use Art Quest to value people's belongings.

The Hislops, though, cannot supply all the answers. On all matters — such as quality and authenticity — it has to rely on the information supplied by the auction houses. It does not include the identity of buyers and sellers, or, crucially, when things fail to sell. None of the old masters currently being sold privately by dealers to Japan, for example, registers in the statistics. Art Quest may be the Bible of the art world, but it sticks only to the good news.

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4 Join armed forces (6)
9 Golden snip (7)
10 Fukuoka (5)
11 Land-bound servant (4)
12 Baked savoury dish (7)
14 Coin collector (11)
18 Mortification (7)
19 Anger (4)
22 Alter (5)
24 Springy (7)
25 Forcefulness (6)
26 Fitting (6)
DOWN
1 Perches (4)
2 Ven (5)
3 Great Savoy chief (9)
5 Daze (3)
6 Conjuror up (7)
7 Arm/leg spasm (6)
8 Manipulate to gain (11)
11 Male offspring (3)
13 Car procession (9)
15 Not conscious of (7)
16 Bond (3)
17 Awkward predicament (6)
20 Supply (5)
21 Rabbit tail (4)
23 Barge tower (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1467
ACROSS: 1 Wardrobe 5 Fell 9 Stopgap 10 Input 11 Agile 12 Means 13 Biff 15 Pukka 16 Model 18 Saint 20 Khaki 21 Re-estate 23 Tale 24 Chambers
DOWN: 1 Wisdom 2 Roofrack 3 Rig 4 Baptist Church 5 Expo 7 Let off 8 Fibrobomb 11 Assassins 14 Undulate 15 Flock 17 Labels 19 Ham 22 Sam

Auctioneers' staff lists often read like roll-calls of the aristocracy. Now Sotheby's have recruited an expert of novel appellation: Professor John Carswell.

An Englishman, Carswell has come straight from a chairmanship at the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago to head the auction house's Islamic department.

"The transition between the two worlds is proving easy," he told me this week. "Auctioneers and curators are all interested in the same things. I am here as an expert in my subject. What an object is worth, can only come from experience."

Before going to Chicago, Carswell worked at the American University in Beirut. "I had intended to stay there all my life," he says, "but had to leave 11 years ago for obvious reasons." Now, from the vantage point of Bond Street, he says he is reeling at the prospect of selling a huge consignment of Turkish textiles and ceramics to the new breed of Turkish yuppie.

POINT-TO-POINT PEOPLE

Riders who are set to go from strength to strength in 1988 are featured in *Horse and Hound*, out today: all-time leading lady Josie Sheppard, Teress and Robert Elwell, Steven Brookshaw and Tim and Pip Jones.

Also
• Making the Weight: advice from Marcus Armytage.
• The season ahead: special review.
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HORSE and HOUND

EVERY THURSDAY



Point-to-Point People

HEALTH

After the teething troubles

Would the abolition of free dental check-ups be bad news for patients? Some dentists believe it will encourage preventive dentistry. Ann Kent reports

Marshall Midda, a consultant at Bristol Dental Hospital and former chairman of the British Dental Health Foundation, believes that dentistry as we know it now will soon disappear. And he cites statistics to support his claim: in 1973 30 per cent of the nation's five-year-olds had no tooth decay at all; by 1983 the figure was 52 per cent. However, in Midda's area, 87 per cent of five-year-olds now have decay-free teeth.

The incidence of dental caries is decreasing dramatically, but NHS dentistry has not caught up with this healthy trend. Although dentists acknowledged in the Seventies that conservation was a new trend, most of their income is derived from repairing, replacing or extract-

ing damaged teeth. And as they are paid on a piece-work basis, there is an inevitable temptation to do as much work as possible on the patient's mouth. There is no incentive to watch small cavities which have a good chance of remineralizing (repairing naturally), or to make sure each filling is firm enough to last 10 years (as it should).

The Government's White Paper last November, "Promoting Better Health" concedes: "In recent years there has been growing concern that the remuneration system might encourage dentists to maintain their incomes at a time of improving dental health by engaging in unnecessary dental treatment."

In April a new law is likely to enter the statute book requiring patients to pay for



Stefan Edgren holds a scale-model of a titanium implant for false teeth; (inset) the real thing

what has traditionally been a free six-monthly check-up. The existing complicated fee system is also being revised so that patients will pay 75 per cent of their dental bills, up to a ceiling of £150. At present they pay the first £17, and up to 65p in the pound thereafter up to £115. Crowns, bridge-work and dentures are paid for in full. Some dentists display information about NHS charges in their waiting rooms, but they are not obliged to do so.

Dentists are far from happy with the proposed new law. The British Dental Association objection is that past experience has shown that when charges go up, the number of patients drops.

If this happens, then the BDA feels there is a danger that many dentists will feel it is no longer worthwhile to practise under the NHS.

Inevitably, while the nation waits for the health service to turn the theory of preventive dentistry into good clinical practice, the private sector is moving in.

Exactly a year ago Denplan was founded by two dentists,

The invention of fluoride toothpaste came too late for millions of people. About 30 per cent of adults in the UK are toothless in one or both jaws. Near-miracles can already be performed with crowns and bridge-work. But now people with really bad teeth have another option: bionic teeth.

Titanium, an amazing lightweight metal already used in missile design, is now used as a kind of rawling for the jaw. Screw-shaped titanium implants are drilled into the jawbone where they become bonded with the living bone cells. It is a lengthy and expensive process. Patients have to wait up to six months between the installation of the implant under local anaesthetic and a second operation. This involves the insertion of metal titanium connectors through the gum and into holes in the implant. Two

Hi-tech with real bite

weeks later, when the gums have healed, the new teeth are screwed on to the connectors.

These permanent false teeth are already being provided in some London teaching hospitals for a limited number of patients. The patients have to pay material costs, which can be as high as £2,000 for a complete set of new teeth.

About 18 oral surgeons in private practice also provide the implants, made by the Swedish company Nobelpharma. A complete set, including fees, costs about £5,000. The Swedes claim a 99 per cent success rate for the

lower jaw, and 95 per cent for the upper jaw.

Helium neon lasers are being used to reduce pain and swelling after dental treatment. Marshall Midda, a consultant dental surgeon at Bristol Dental Hospital, says: "We are now looking at the effects of the laser on those who have had their wisdom teeth extracted."

The theory of how the lasers work is based on the fact that damaged cells are unable to get all the energy they need for quick recovery. Light is a form of energy, and the frequency at which these lasers emit light allows energy to be absorbed by the damaged cells.

About 40 private dentists and at least one NHS practitioner are using laser treatment for pain relief. Although the equipment costs £3,000, the dentists believe it saves them money by avoiding repeat visits from patients in pain.

regular appointments with the hygienist as needed (the scrape and polish is an essential weapon against the build up of plaque) and at least two check-ups a year. All treatment is free but patients have to pay the laboratory costs of dentures, bridges and crowns.

Like other private patients, subscribers to Denplan can have their cavities smoothed away with white amalgam rather than the ugly, metallic grey amalgam offered on the NHS.

Noar, who is managing director of the Winchester-based company, says: "Denplan dentists have no incentive to do too much work on patients' teeth because they are being paid a flat rate. Equally, they don't want to do too little, or they will make

more work for themselves in the future."

Phil De Jonge, editor of *The Dentist*, is convinced that such schemes are the way forward for dentistry. He predicted a four-tier system of dentistry, possibly involving the use of vouchers. "A proportion of the population will receive all their treatment free, although the numbers will be small," he says. "A proportion will continue to see their NHS dentists but a lot of middle-class people will switch over to something like Denplan. The kind of people who like to tell their friends how much they spend on their bridgework will continue to see private dentists."

Midda stands firm in his conviction that conventional dental repair work is likely to

disappear almost entirely. "At present the dentist's ego reward lies in filling a nice big hole. There won't be enough of those to keep him busy in future." However, Midda believes that orthodontists may be very busy because, as children lose fewer teeth, they will have more problems with over-crowding than previous generations and more orthodontic treatment will be needed.

But he stresses that the secret of healthy teeth lies with patients rather than dentists. "Patients are not passive objects in the dentist's chair. They have a responsibility to look after their own mouths, and thus benefit from lower treatment costs."

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MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

A rash of excitement?



Urticaria, or hives, is the pimple rash-like skin condition which results in irritating red patches on some patients subject to allergies. It can follow eating of very small amounts of food such as shellfish or eggs, can be associated with many common over-the-counter remedies, the stings of certain insects, over-indulgence in strawberries, or occasionally can be the first sign of viral infections or of generalized disease.

Although emotional tension and anxiety are known to play a part in causing it, experts usually dismiss psychological influences as being only marginal. But in a recent case reported in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* the effect of stress was obvious. In the 1986 World Cup, a 38-year-old English fan developed urticaria when Portugal scored. He had no sooner lost the rash when four days later England faced badly against Morocco. He had an immediate recurrence. The patient was treated with Triludan, one of the modern antihistamines which, as it does not cross over into the brain, would not have dulled his appreciation of the rest of the football.

Steroids by mouth or injection may be necessary if patients develop angioneurotic oedema, in which the rash is accompanied by swelling of the underlying tissue. Steroid creams have no effect in the treatment of the condition. When the cause is not apparent and the urticaria is persistent the rarer, sometimes more serious, causes have to be excluded.

Liquid transplants



As a one-time Grenadier Guardsman, 75-year-old Alfred Carden, of Norwich, was proud that he was young for his age and that, apart from some immobility caused by an arthritic hip, he was physically and mentally in good fettle. Two years ago he had a hip replacement and needed a transfusion. Unfortunately the blood used was contaminated with hepatitis B. After developing jaundice he died last October from liver failure. At an inquest last week the director of the East Anglian Blood Transfusion Service reassured the public and pointed out that disasters with transfusion were rare, only two other cases of hepatitis B being transmitted by a transfusion had occurred in East Anglia in the past five years.

But mistakes occur occasionally: a Stafford man, Roy Lawrence, aged 61, died from heart and liver failure on Monday after being given the wrong blood during a routine hospital operation.

A recent survey has shown that even usually well-informed people have misconceptions about blood transfusion. It showed that there is a widespread belief that blood for transfusion is purified in some way, rather as milk is pasteurized, whereas in fact

the blood used is unaltered. Although the blood cannot be clarified by heat treatment many, but by no means all, viral infections can be detected by testing and contaminated blood discarded.

Research, too, shows that most people think that as long as the blood is of the correct group no further cross matching is needed. Ideally, blood should be as carefully matched as if it were being used as an organ for transplant, as in many respects a transfusion is a liquid transplant. Except in the direst emergencies in remote areas, blood is always cross matched. Many people mistakenly believe that if they received Brian Robson's or Sebastian Coe's blood they would recover more quickly, rather in the way that a primitive tribesman used to hope to steal his opponent's strength by cannibalism. Unfortunately no such way of achieving easy vitality exists.

The Blood Transfusion Service, where morale has been low recently, might be cheered by another finding in the survey, which shows that the public holds them and their donors in such high regard that the general assumption is that they are all such obviously decent people that the blood they dispense must be good, too, and that only abroad might blood be infected. There is only some truth in that assumption.

Important histories



A report in *The Lancet* by Dr Patricia Last, of the Bupa medical centre in London, illustrates the importance of careful history-taking by doctors, and answers those patients who are sometimes affronted by prying questions about their relatives' illnesses. Dr Last presents six cases, in each of which a woman who had a seriously abnormal cervical smear was also found on questioning to

have had a close relative, or relatives, mothers or sisters, with similar findings.

In one family, four sisters all had potential or actual malignant change in the cells of the cervix. Dr Last suggests that doctors should encourage women with an abnormal smear to make certain that their close female relatives are also regularly checked. The same advice, in fact, which is already being given to women with malignant growths in their breasts.

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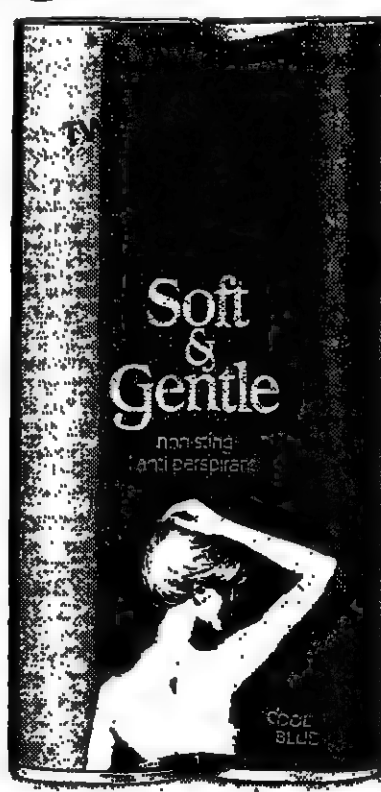
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THE TIMES DIARY

Tagging along

Hamstead Heath, whose ownership has been in the air since the abolition of the GLC, is to be handed over to the City of London. The London Residuary Body, which is shortly to produce its unimpeachable consultation document on the issue, is fuming over criticism that it is prevaricating over a recommendation. Far from it, says Sir Godfrey "Tag" Taylor, its chairman and a former Tory councillor. In an unguarded moment he has made it clear that his outfit's mind was made up long ago. It wants the City of London Corporation to run the Heath, using reserves from its "City Cash" fund and a handout from the residuary body. The two-year consultation process, which deliberated over whether Camden Council or a local trust should take over, has been for one reason only — to ward off a lawsuit from Camden when the recommendation finally goes to Nicholas Ridley. The council cannot now claim there has been inadequate consultation over the decision.

Ever appealing

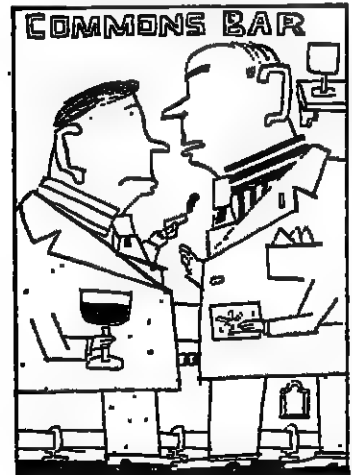
One mark of the worry over the chances of a successful Alliance merger agreement is the premature return from the US of SDP founder-member Lord Jenkins of Hillhead. He has been on a fund-raising tour in his capacity as Chancellor of Oxford University but, having been kept fully informed of the latest Lib-SDP shenanigans, will be back a week early to try and persuade the Liberals at their Blackpool conference to vote for merger. The losers, besides Oxford, in this change of plan are the wealthy citizens of Texas. Jenkins has cancelled one appointment in Houston arranged for today and brought forward a lunch in Austin so that he may leave tonight, flying via Paris and Manchester, to arrive in time for the weekend meeting.

Colleagues have been chuckling at the different styles of Alan Beith and Paddy Ashdown, two of the putative candidates for Liberal leader if David Steel goes. Beith, MP for Berwick, is to stay in the four-star comfort of the Imperial Hotel at the weekend after travelling to Blackpool by first-class Pullman. Ashdown (Yeovil) will slum it on the party special train and stay in a guest house.

Age concern

Drama at the Whitbread Book of the Year dinner when our waitress, after glancing meaningfully round the table, announced that she had been instructed to clear it by starting with the plate of the oldest woman. Fortunately, the favourite guest (a stockbroker's wife) ignored the sight and saw the joke. But was the Chiswell Street brewer's etiquette correct? The Savoy says it relies on a waiter's good sense but came up with this formula: serve the VIP first or, if guests are of equal status, the eldest woman. By my reckoning that would have given precedence to at least two others on my table, a government minister and a national newspaper editor. Lady Elizabeth Anson's Party Planners suggest: start with the guest on the host's right on the assumption that she is either the guest of honour or his partner. As for our waitress's indiscretion: "The woman should have been fired on the spot."

BARRY FANTONI



'Compared to the state of John Moore, the NHS looks positively blooming'

Heath's hitch

Edward Heath is unlikely ever to feature in the British Airways television commercial and ready for business in a foreign capital. On the way to a meeting in Paris this week, he was picked up at Le Bourget airport by a British embassy car which minutes later was pranged in a minor accident. As the niceties of diplomatic immunity were explained in halting French, a company limousine passed carrying Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries and a fellow participant in the Action Committee for Europe meeting. Sheehy graciously offered a lift, but Heath's relief was short-lived. After a few kilometres the party was stopped by gendarmes and accused of speeding. By the time he joined Michael Heseltine and David Owen at the opening reception, Heath must have been nostalgically recalling the day as PM that he beat a Westminster traffic jam by getting out of his car and walking to the Commons.

PHS

Grief that must be heeded

by Brian Rix

When our mentally handicapped daughter was born some 37 years ago, we parents were a beleaguered race. The standard advice given was still "put 'em away and forget 'em". That is, if you could afford a private home; if not, the offer was certification and the mental hospital. Thus, most parents had no alternative other than to choose care at home.

This care, generally, was given lovingly and willingly, but placed an almost intolerable strain upon the family — for additional help from the state was minimal. It is not surprising therefore, that parents formed the Association of Parents of Backward Children (now the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults); things began to change — though slowly.

During the past 10 years more positive legislation has been enacted than in any previous decade. But most of these Acts have been concerned mainly with easing the day-to-day living of such families. The other vital problem — prevention, which is what all parents most earnestly desire — has not been addressed to any great extent. That is, until now.

Today consideration will begin on the Warnock White Paper, *Human Fertilisation and Embryology: A Framework for Legislation*. This offers an opportunity to prevent congenital disorders. The question is, with the knowledge in their possession, are our MPs best qualified to address the issue?

They will be presented with two choices on embryo research: the first would ban it altogether, the second would permit research on pre-embryos, under a statutory licensing authority, up to 14 days after fertilisation. Now, if as a parent you are known to have a genetic defect, you may wish to take advantage of the latter opportunity, should such *in vitro* fertilisation be available, thus attempting to produce a normal, healthy baby. Unfortunately there is strong opposition to this view, led, of course, by the pressure groups Life and SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child) — both of which seem to exert a peculiar influence over our parliamentarians.

The same two groups are in action again over David Alton's Abortion Bill, which goes for its second reading tomorrow. Grisy and heart-rending stories have been trotted out to drive many a sensible MP into the lobby which could sentence future parents to an agony of indecision, guilt and, possibly, law-breaking.

What will happen to women who choose to undergo amniocentesis to discover if the fetus is abnormal should Mr Alton's Bill be enacted in its present form? Quite simply, they will no longer have this option, for though amniocentesis is carried out at about the 16th week of pregnancy the results are not known until the 20th. At present, if the fetus is found to be defective, the parents can choose to terminate the pregnancy; if the time limit is reduced to 18 weeks — or, in reality, 17 weeks as propounded by Professor Stuart Campbell (Letter, January 9) this choice will no longer be possible, leaving an unacceptable crime as the only escape for the distressed parents.

But mentally handicapped children will continue to be born and there will be many parents who care and grieve for them, often until their own health and strength gives out — perhaps for 60 years or more. If only our legislators could wait for further advice and listen to the views of many of their constituents, who know the problems at first hand.

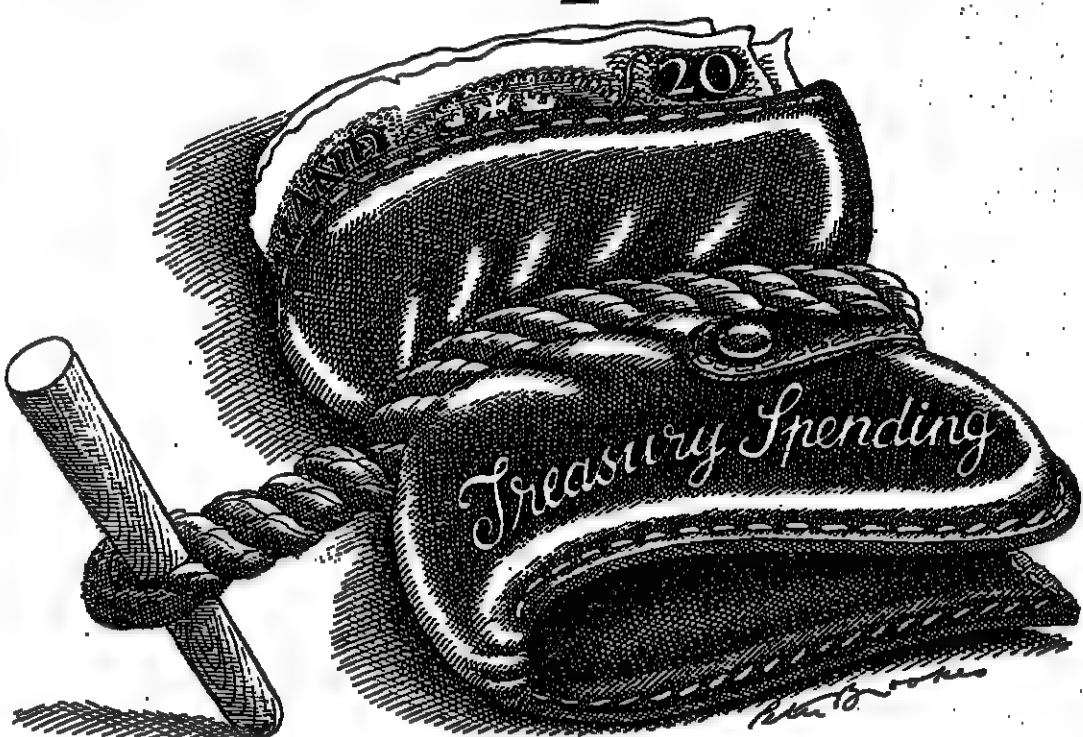
Next month, Menapac's Medical Advisory Panel and the Forum on Mental Retardation of the Royal Society of Medicine are holding a conference to examine the legal, medical and ethical issues confronting parents and people with a mental handicap. Some of those parents and their offspring, along with lawyers, doctors and other professionals, will debate those matters currently before the House of Commons, and also those concerning marriage, child-bearing, sterilization and, indeed, survival. The guidelines produced will be debated in the months to come by all the interested parties and a set of firm proposals should be forthcoming before the end of the year which could enable our legislators to respond practically, positively and with integrity to the problems that confront us today.

Two years ago *The Times* published an article of mine addressed to the Chancellor, headed "Give charity basic relief". This article might be headlined "Give parents basic relief" — relief from all those who heap additional stress on shoulders already bowed down with unbearable burdens.

Francis Bacon was right: "The joys of parents are secret, and so are their griefs and fears." It's time our griefs and fears were made known and counted above all else in any forthcoming Acts of Parliament.

Sir Brian Rix retired as secretary-general of Menapac last November.

Doctors under pressure



NHS in crisis: Jill Sherman considers the strains on one of the key groups — and how they can improve their service

While it might be difficult to change existing consultants' contracts the DHSS conditions could be imposed on senior registrars now awaiting promotion.

The package has been dismissed by consultants' leaders as a smokescreen to divert attention from the NHS funding crisis. They argue that the DHSS has admitted that only 10 per cent of doctors abuse NHS time by failing to fulfil their contractual duties, with 70 per cent working beyond their contracted hours.

But the BMA and the Royal Medical Colleges accept that some clinical practices could become more efficient. They have cautiously backed the DHSS in setting up five pilot projects throughout the country aimed at making doctors more accountable for the cost of different treatments. DHSS officials argue that in many cases hospitals appear to spend widely differing amounts on the same treatment.

The schemes involve setting up detailed information systems with the co-operation of doctors so that they know why patients have been referred, the diagnosis made in hospitals, the degree of severity of the conditions, the treatment given and the related costs.

The idea is that once doctors had this information they would come under peer pressure to alter inefficient practices. The projects should be evaluated this year, but a national system saving perhaps £70 million a year could not be implemented until 1992 and would be expensive to install.

The system will work only if doctors become more involved in administration. At Guy's, for example, a doctor now chairs the hospital management board. Under him sit 14 directors of clinical services who hold the budget for their different specialities.

Some hospitals have already cut down unnecessary expensive procedures such as certain diagnostic tests, but doctors warn that treatment cannot be regulated. For a variety of reasons, patients of the same age and with the same complaint may need different tests, drugs or surgical treatment; interference with clinical freedom could therefore jeopardize patient care.

The Government recognizes the need for better information in order to spot rogue doctors or outdated practices. In some cases waiting lists are artificially long because consultants want to encourage patients to see them privately. On the other hand, a long waiting list could indicate that the consultant treats his patients quickly, thereby attracting more referrals from GPs.

But the Government still seems unable to grasp the nettle that information systems should relate cost to outcome. One surgeon may perform many more operations than another but how many of his patients die? How many need to come back for further surgery or live only for a couple of years? A hospital may see more patients every year by reducing the length of time they spend in hospital. But who checks to see if any of these

people are readmitted? If they are, is it for part of their course of treatment or because they were discharged too early?

The medical profession itself now concedes that there should be more information on effective and ineffective clinical procedures. One of the first studies conducted by the medical profession into the outcome of medical procedures led to the publication last year of *The Confidential Enquiry into Perioperative Deaths*. It concluded that hundreds of patients were dying because of errors of judgement by surgeons and anaesthetists, in many cases due to lack of experience. It found that several operations on cancer patients were futile because the cancer was too widespread.

The Royal College of Physicians has recently launched a working party on medical audit to relate costs to quality of care in terms of whether people die or get better and how much better.

John Moore knows he has to tread carefully with the medical profession. Negotiations over the Government White Paper on primary health care are also likely to put a few noses out of joint with threats to dock doctors' pay if they fail to provide certain services.

He is under pressure from Downing Street and from the Treasury to squeeze money out of clinical budgets, including the nursing budget. The colleges, the BMA and civil servants have warned that this has to be done by peer pressure and negotiation. To impose limits to clinical freedom from the centre would be tantamount to declaring war.

It seems that Mrs Thatcher has already drawn up the battle lines. Moore could well find himself reading in Bevan's footsteps.

Concluded

£5.5 billion for 1989/90 — will be translated into actual increases in public expenditure.

That would be unfair. There is inevitably some mismatch between plans and outcomes. The sums of money at stake are very large and the problems of coordination, not only between the Treasury and the spending departments, but also between Whitehall, local authorities, area health boards, education authorities and so on, are severe.

In particular, the Government's commitment to the National Health Service should not be in question. DHSS spending on health and personal social services is estimated as having risen by almost 10 per cent in real terms between 1985/86 and 1987/88, with a further 1.2 per cent to follow in 1988/89.

Whereas public expenditure as a whole is coming in beneath original estimates in the current fiscal year, expenditure on the NHS is above planned levels.

Despite all the statistical difficulties the message of the latest expenditure White Paper is that the Government is achieving many of the objectives it set for itself. But the fine words and precise numbers for 1988/89 and 1989/90 should not be taken too literally.

Tim Congdon

The author is chief UK economist at Shearson Lehman Brothers, the securities house.

Figures not to be taken literally

government. According to yesterday's White Paper, general government expenditure will rise by a meagre 0.5 per cent in real terms, far less than the 4 per cent increase in national output. The consequent fall in the ratio of expenditure to gross domestic product is one of the key reasons that the Chancellor can reconcile tax cuts with a balanced budget.

Indeed, the 1987/88 planning total is not now expected to be reached. In last year's White Paper it was set at £148.6 billion; in yesterday's document it was estimated at £147.3 billion. The reduction is attributed, rather disingenuously, to "higher than expected capital receipts of local authorities and New Towns". Actually, a whole range of items have cost less than expected and others more, the net effect being some reduction. The effect of falling unemployment on social security benefits has been particularly important.

The scale of expenditure undershoot in the current fiscal year should cast doubt on the official projection that, with a 1988/89 planning total of £156.8 billion, government expenditure will rise

by 1.5 per cent in real terms next year. It could, if past experience is any guide, easily rise by 1 per cent more or less than this, depending on how the economy develops and on how the Treasury operates the control machinery.

It is not a strong recommendation for the reliability of the White Paper's numbers that the 1986/87 planning total has been revised retrospectively by £1.2 billion. In the 1987 White Paper — published, it should be emphasized, only a few weeks before the end of the year for which it was estimating — the 1986/87 planning total was put at £140.4 billion; it is now thought, according to the 1988 White Paper, to have been £139.2 billion. Perhaps, when all the information for the current year is in, it will turn out that the undershoot was not £1.3 billion but £2.5 billion or more.

There is obvious temptation, given the record of previous undershoots (and overshoots), to dismiss the figures in the White Paper as a charade. In particular, there is bound to be much scepticism that the announced increases in future planning totals — of £2.6 billion in 1988/89 and

Ronald Butt

Mrs Thatcher, please listen

The British parliamentary system imposes a unique requirement for sensitivity on its politicians. Governments are sustained by a party majority which gives them security, discretion and authority. But if they are wise they will not behave as though they take that majority for granted and do not care what it thinks.

It is, of course, always a temptation to do so. By attaching the vote of confidence to everything it chooses, a government can peg the parliamentary majority's right to dismiss it, for no party will turn its leaders out on one issue to put the opposition in power on everything. Rebels must calculate their rebellions so as not to put the government at risk.

On the other hand, a wise government is concerned about the opinions of its own supporters, which reflect the frame of mind of the voters behind them. That means trying to respond to their anxieties and principles. Loyalty is always a two-way business.

Mrs Thatcher's has been a conspicuously successful government. It has rooted out endemic inflation, reformed the unions and industrial practices, brought resumed growth and privatized what it was assumed would be state-owned for ever. It has done what its enemies said could not be done and changed the face of Britain for the better. All this was achieved in the teeth of much obstruction from within her first Cabinet.

Not surprisingly, Mrs Thatcher and her present colleagues have developed a great sense of self-confidence in their ability to take the measure of public need and sentiment. But in politics there is a thin margin between self-confidence and the risk of arrogance. Nothing does more than past successes to persuade politicians that they cannot fail in the future; nothing is more conducive to future failure than a sense of infallibility.

The Government is now at odds with a substantial body of its own supporters on a variety of issues. When it imposed an unprecedented three-line Whip on Mr Richard Shepherd's private member's bill to reform the Official Secrets Act there was a rebellion which reduced its potential majority of 101 to 37. A week earlier, a similar rebellion against freezing child benefits had reduced the majority to 47. Many Tories in and out of Parliament are also deeply worried by the poll tax, which they believe to be inequitable, possibly unwarranted, and likely to be a vote loser.

Above all there is the vast nexus of complaints about the health service, from worries about staff, wards, beds and even hospitals, untreated patients, children waiting for operations and under-paid nurses and other NHS workers which have led to threatened strikes by nurses and in the blood transfusion service. The fact that the Government held its full

majority after the NHS debate this week is no guide to Tory feeling for there was no direct question at issue except whether it would be better to have a Labour or a Conservative government.

Figures of higher government NHS spending and vague promises to reform its financing structure in the next parliament do not answer the real misgivings about what is to be done now. Nor is it enough to say simply that there are now more expensive procedures that were not available before. They exist; people expect them to be reasonably available.

The question therefore is not only long-term reform, of the finding of a service on which the vast majority relies. It is also how to keep it going satisfactorily in the interim during which people will not be happy to live with anxiety about the NHS for want of a reasonable injection of money that has all been given to tax cuts.

In all these questions, the Government would be quite wrong to suppose that all it faces now is a recrudescence of the old Wet sentiment of a few years back. According to legend, the Tory party's social concern was the peculiar prerogative of the party's more socially lofty element, represented by Macmillan and Butler. That is not so; they represented a class interest willing to give something to retain rather more, and in many respects the newer Tory party (rightists and all) understand the nature of the problem more vividly from closer at hand.

Mr Kinnock has decided that Labour is to be the "listening party." Socialism is to remain its bedrock but it will listen to the opinions of the people about ways and means. But since Kinnock and his friends are hungry for power they will be very happy to present the ways and means in a shape which doesn't look frighteningly like the socialism the nation does not want.

It is increasingly possible to imagine the Labour Party being successfully presented as simply the party of reform, especially now that Mr Steel has destroyed effective centre party. The Labour reality is still of course that party "democracy" (or *diktat*) is always seeking to override parliamentary democracy, even over the Alton Bill. But if the nation becomes socially concerned it could respond to Kinnock precisely as it did to Harold Wilson in 1964, and between them there are some notable similarities. It is not too early to think of this since voters store away their memory of a government's performance as a whole for reference at elections.

Parliamentary democracy requires listening governments. While Mr Kinnock is listening, or purporting to, the impression given by the Government is that it is not listening at all, either to the public directly or to its backbenchers who are the most sensitive channel for their constituents' opinions. That is ominous.

however... Pearson Phillips

Sloping off to Little Tibet

You make a Bombardino with whisky, hot milk, egg and advocat. A half litre jug of it does wonders for a party of six after one of those memorable days when sun and snow have been perfect and even the skiing has come reasonably right for once.

It was probably a mistake to ring home while exhilarated from the effects of all that "You seem to have fallen on your feet again," was the cool response.

It doesn't happen often. But sometimes the ill-rewarded agonies involved in being a practising journalist are compensated by unexpected golden days. People shook their heads as I set off for this corner of the Italian Alps, purely in the course of duty, to look at the state of the skiing in the warmest winter in memory.

"You're going to Livigno? Too far south and too low," they said. They were wrong. This place has always been one of Europe's anomalies, as well as one of its best-kept secrets. It's a straggling village in a 6,000ft valley. But until 1914 it was a lost valley, surrounded by high mountains with no road through them. That's how it acquired its nickname, "Little Tibet". It is also why it was awarded the compensation of a customs-free zone. The villagers specialized in smuggling between Switzerland and Italy.

But the brass band paraded, the flags flew and the streets were decorated with lanterns on October 4, 1914, for the opening of the first road linking Livigno to "Mother Italy". An old photograph shows the arrival of the first motor cars. "Before the astonished local populace the protagonists and prime movers of the great enterprise congratulated each other."

They had every reason to. For the descendants of those "prime movers" are mostly now in the millionaire class. The mountain road turned Livigno into a centre of tourism and winter sport. But they have still clung to their customs-free privilege. So the price of petrol is half what it is elsewhere in Italy, the hotels pay no VAT and the hi-tech ski suit I splashed out on would have cost nearly double elsewhere.

The EEC is grumbling about the unfairness of rich and canny villagers being given an official privilege which makes them even

richer. But no one seems prepared to take it away from them.

Meanwhile the same people keep coming back to Livigno year after year. And many of the regulars are British. "I've been coming for 14 years," one woman tells me. "First with my husband, then with my boy friend. Why, I wonder, do I come? It's dozens of resorts with more skiing, better facilities and more glamour."

I think I know the answer. For the average Briton there is a fair amount of apprehension and downright fear attached to the whole business of skiing. These foreigners are all so disgustingly better at it than we are. They look better, too. And richer. Loathing slips neatly into place behind fear. Part of the equipment of many British skiers is a waterproof, childproof covering of a hearty chauvinism. It's very easy to curse the Austrians, the Germans and the French, particularly when they won't even queue properly. It is also true that the average French ski lift attendant is not famous for his bonhomie or gentility.

My own apprehensions can be traced to my first ever skiing experience, a course at an army ski school in Austria. Within half an hour of arriving I was in trouble, standing, hat off before the CO charged with "wilful destruction of military equipment while on active service." I hadn't realized those old bamboo ski sticks could break so easily.

But it is all a lot less threatening here. The slopes themselves are what one tour operator calls "good English slopes", which means wide, gentle and free from all the bumpy horrors which bring out the tiger in other nationalities.

Also the average Italian, whisper it, not much better than we are. Also it is very difficult to feel any hatred for a smiling, genial character who wishes you "Buon giorno" as he hands you a blanket to ease the rigours of a ride on the chairlift. The odd non-man's-land status seems to have dissolved national antagonism as well. Last night the English, Welsh, French and Germans were all singing songs to each other, though the Bombardino may have helped them.

Mind you, there is one in our party of journalists who is a rather good, aggressive skier. I think we may start to hate him.



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

KEEPING CONTROL

The Government's decision, at this late stage, not to add to the amount set aside for spending on the National Health Service next year is politically dangerous — and right. A government which has set financial control at the very heart of its policies cannot, especially after the exhaustive discussions in last autumn's public spending survey, suddenly change its mind. Short-term changes — cuts or increases — in the amount of money made available for particular programmes are a classic recipe for misusing the taxpayer's money.

This is not to say that the Government has automatically got its priorities right. Few of its supporters, or its opponents, would have voted for a bigger increase in spending on social security than on health during the past nine years if it could have been avoided. Given the premises on which the NHS is funded, the amount set aside for it in 1989-90 and 1990-91 is not necessarily enough. But when the Chancellor reveals the decisions of the next public spending survey in his autumn statement in November it will be astonishing if ministers have failed to agree another increase in spending on health. For the sophisticated, the real lobbying season is June-September.

As a comprehensive description of the Government's spending plans, yesterday's Public Expenditure White Paper continues the steady improvement of recent years. The new section on science and technology is particularly welcome and will make it easier to assess whether the Government is making a sufficient contribution to Britain's future in this area.

A more conventional definition of investment shows that public sector capital spending is due to fall by about 2.3 per cent in real terms in the coming year and then to level off. Capital spending, as usual, would seem to have been easier to cut than current, which over the next three years is planned to rise in real terms by more than 9 per cent. But this partly reflects a conscious policy of transferring some parts of capital spending from the public to the private sector.

RADIO FREE HURD

The Home Secretary is to auction three national radio frequencies to commercial stations which promise not to broadcast non-stop popular music. He is also to allocate up to 100 local frequencies to community broadcasters who can pay their own way, though they will not necessarily have to make a profit. This is a big expansion of an under-used medium.

The Home Office's responsibility for broadcasting policy is an accident of Whitehall's administrative geography, which may be why the Home Secretary's incursions into the subject sound rather unconvincing. From Lord Young, talk of a "lighter touch" (Mr Hurd's phrase) in the regulation of radio might have sounded plausible. From the Home Secretary the promise was not so convincing.

Yet communications policy will always be a matter of compromise because it is a point at which cultures clash. Unfettered freedom to consume and state-imposed restriction on what can be broadcast are conflicting ambitions. So it would be unfair to blame Mr Hurd for being mealy-mouthed. He has offered half a loaf. Britain's conservatism in the use of the available radio spectrum has become notorious. New national radio channels of any kind are a substantial advance.

Radio has in recent years been a declining or static medium, as measured by the number of hours people spend listening per week. Local radio, excepting the success of Capital and a small number of big city stations, has not worked well, either commercially or culturally. Mr Hurd has been spurred to act by the pirate stations. But there is no sense in which the kitchen-sink operations of a few stations in the metropolis (indefensible though they are because they consume a scarce resource without licence or fee) constitute the same assault on culture or society as the off-shore pirates did in the 1960s.

ALFONSIN WINS AGAIN

It may have been predictable that Lt-Col. Aldo Rico would lose his rebellion against the Argentine government of President Alfonsín. But his failure to attract national support to his banner, remains none the less significant.

The more serious military uprising nine months ago raised a series of awkward questions for the Alfonsín government. Smouldering resentment in an army which had been badly defeated in the Falklands War and discredited in the eyes of the people was ignited by the prospect of legal action against a number of its officers. While the challenge to Argentine democracy was defeated, there remained doubts over whether this was really the end of the affair. This month's latest eruption and the manner in which it was crushed suggest that it might well be seen as the beginning of the end.

While it is fashionable (and right) to decry the army's abuse of human rights during the 1970s, it should also be pointed out that, in the eyes of many civilians, it served a purpose. By taking on the subversive left, the army removed a threat to their wellbeing. It forfeited goodwill by going much too far — replacing one kind of threat with another. But the mixed feelings among bewildered Argentines, who viewed left and right with equal distaste, created a climate of uncertainty which allowed unscrupulous exploitation.

The two focal points for military discontent have been the legal action taken against some of its officers and the loss of army privileges and influence. Some have argued that it has not yet lost enough. While conscription has been reduced and the budget for buying new weapons severely trimmed, the military remains a separate section of society with a voice of its own and the capacity to exert pressure. Still, its power has been in decline and it would

The obvious example is house-building, where the Government has successfully shifted the emphasis from council housing to the private sector and other parts of the public sector. Less obviously there has been a degree of "privatization" of other capital projects, such as the Dartford Bridge and Channel Tunnel. In the past, these would have been funded by taxation; now they are being successfully financed in the private sector. To the extent that more projects are now being subjected to the acid test of whether a free market will finance them, some marking time in public sector capital spending may be acceptable.

The White Paper also marks a further step on the long road towards measuring what the Government is buying as well as what it is spending. There is more and better information about value for money. Not only can we find out how many miles of new roads have been completed, but we learn that the price per mile has fallen in real terms by 28 per cent since the beginning of 1980. Not only do we know how much benefit has been distributed by social security offices, but we learn that average waiting times are shorter.

But as the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr John Major, admitted yesterday, there is still a long way to go. Measurement of what the public sector is producing remains patchy. That leaves Commons select committees a big job in teasing out of the departments the information on which to base a proper judgement of value for money.

The Government has turned the inexorable rise in public spending as a proportion of the economy during the 1960s and early 1970s into a steady fall, even if in the eye of history such achievements may be relegated to a footnote. As the White Paper reminds us, compared with the present level of 42.5 per cent of national income, public spending a century ago was about 9 per cent. That is one "Victorian value" worth returning to in the 1980s.

Radio, national or community, will have an uphill task to survive the next decade and the Government would do well to recognize just how costly will be the regulatory regimes it envisages. Even Mr Hurd's well-intended remark that his new radio authority will inspect equipment could easily translate into official specifications that rule out low-cost broadcasting capable of enlivening the urban airwaves.

Mr Hurd has left a number of ends untied. He implicitly condemns the Independent Broadcasting Authority for its heavy hand (though it has rarely done more than attempt to translate conflicting signals from Parliament into regulatory action). But what criteria are his new authority to apply in approving stations?

What, for example, constitutes a community for the purposes of allocating a local frequency? Are the regulators going to favour not-for-profit activists who claim a "community outlook" which a profit-making popular-music-playing outfit might claim with more validity. The Home Office's general record here is not encouraging. Mr Hurd's planned sale of national frequencies also raises a number of philosophical and legal problems about property rights and intervention by authority. What happens if, as with TV-am, the pompous promises of the successful bidder are punctured by commercial necessity?

But behind these is a single question. The Government is taking to itself, or its regulatory agent, the right to specify programme content and format. The best judges of that, however, are the broadcasters who will need to convince the advertisers that they will attract audiences. Regulators must stand on watch, ready to penalize broadcasters who grossly offend in what they put on the air. But, with that important proviso, Mr Hurd's freer radio is welcome.

be surprising if there were not some officers who resented this.

That this challenge to President Alfonsín's authority did not develop into a full-scale army coup against him, reflects the achievement of the five-year-old democratic government. Had the administration been discredited or corrupt, had it been surrounded by civilian critics, disillusioned and dismayed by inefficiency, the military might have found a receptive audience in the country. As it is, President Alfonsín, for all his imperfections, remains the best kind of president Argentina has.

This is not to say that the latest uprising does not contain a number of lessons for his government. It has underlined the need for the military to be given a more rewarding role in Argentine society. The lack of a convincing threat to Argentine security from its neighbours in South America and the return of civilian rule to Buenos Aires have left officers with too much time to brood. The greater use of Argentine troops on United Nations peace-keeping operations is one role which might be developed.

Britain has an obvious interest in all this because of its tangled relationship over the Falklands. Continuing signs of army restiveness must keep alive concern over the South Atlantic. But they would also seem to justify British caution in its approach to Buenos Aires. Can one really enter into serious negotiations over sovereignty with a country whose stability remains so much in question?

President Alfonsín has won through again — and without too much difficulty. But the renewed challenge to his authority suggests that he still has much to do before he can be said to have his country firmly under control.

London better off without GLC?

From the Chairman of the London Boroughs Association
Sir, Mr David Walker's assertion (article, January 15) that the governance of London is giving concern following the abolition of the GLC must be refuted.

There is limited cooperation on some matters between the London Boroughs Association, which still has in membership boroughs of all political persuasions and the City, and the Association of London Authorities, which was formed by the Labour boroughs in London when they chose to leave the LBA. The joint approach to the Home Office on financial matters concerning the Metropolitan Police (not its supervision as Mr Walker states) is an example.

The problems to which Mr Walker referred would not be solved by an authority similar to the GLC. That authority had no responsibility for health, its existence would not help staff recruitment in the boroughs. It was never responsible for social services and its involvement in education was only indirect in inner London because of the special position of the ILEA and non-existent in the case of outer London, where the boroughs are education authorities.

Hearing of appeals

From Mr Ludovic Kennedy
Sir, Frederick Lawton (January 11) says that in criminal cases it is for juries and not the Court of Appeal to decide all issues of credibility.

This is not something he has always practised himself. In the Luton post office murder case he and fellow judges in the Appeal Court heard the evidence of a villain called Mathews and concluded he was telling the truth when he was in fact lying. (After publication of a book challenging, *inter alia*, Mathews's evidence, two men convicted of the murder were immediately released by the Home Secretary.)

In the Guildford pub bombing case he and fellow judges heard the evidence of two IRA men who admitted to the murders and decided they were lying, although a formidable body of legal and political opinion now believes them to have been telling the truth.

And Sir Frederick was also among the judges who dismissed the original appeal of those convicted of the Birmingham pub bombings in a judgment which has been recently challenged by a referral back by the Home Secretary and whose conclusions are now awaited.

In admitting the Appeal Court makes mistakes, Sir Frederick makes another other system for hearing appeals would be better. If so, would it not be more sensible to tackle the problem from the other end — i.e., to seek prevention rather than cure?

Israel and Arabs

From Mr Benedict Burnberg
Sir, There is certainly some truth in Lord Dahl's tale of the unexpected paradox (January 8) that a nation (like an individual) which has been severely maltreated by others loses a sense of compassion itself. That is not to say that one should tar all that nation's individuals with the same brush.

Forty years ago, on the threshold of the state of Israel's existence, Dr Judah Magnes, that distinguished Zionist, who had devoted his life to creating the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, wrote: "It is unfortunate that the very men who could point to the tragedy of Jewish displaced persons as the chief argument for mass immigration into Palestine should now be ready... to help create an additional category of displaced persons in the Holy Land."

Dr Magnes was one of a small band of courageous and idealistic Zionists, which included Henrietta Szold, Martin Buber, Hannah Arendt, Ernst Simon, and many others. Norman Bentwich, with a vision of a bi-national or federal solution to the Palestine problem. Their minuscule association, "Hud", advocated union between Jews and Arabs within a bi-national state in Palestine.

They were then, like the proph-

Value from the peers

From Lord Gladwyn
Sir, Your leader on the Lords (January 4) did at least do well to emphasize their present importance. As things are, they certainly represent all sections of British opinion and interests much better than the Commons: their capacity to revise legislation in a sensible way is probably unsurpassed by any other second chamber; and they function perfectly efficiently, though admittedly with some strain on some leading members.

Nor are their powers excessive. Seldom exercised, they only amount to holding up Government measures for up to a year, after which the will of a majority in the House of Commons, which scarcely ever represents more than 40 to 45 per cent of the electorate, must prevail.

You believe that they might nevertheless be made to function more efficiently by the nomination of (temporary) "working peers" who would, it seems, be paid much more than their "non-working" — but still voting — colleagues.

Apart from political implications, it would surely, in all fairness, not be possible to make any such distinction. For instance, would a peer attending most, if not all, divisions, be able to claim the

Far from the chaos which was predicted on abolition, the reorganisation has been both a practical and financial success. Ratepayers have benefited from the substantial sums which have been returned to the boroughs and the boroughs themselves picked up their additional responsibilities largely without problems.

No one body can speak for all London on all issues at all times. A voluntary association without executive functions representing the 33 authorities is, however, very different from a London-wide authority exercising actual power. Common cause can be made and our representations enhanced by being made by one association.

Support for that concept should not be confused with regret for the demise of what had become a redundant wasteful, delaying and overbearing bureaucracy draining the resources of London.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BOWNESS (Chairman, London Boroughs Association),
Croydon Borough Council,
Taberner House,
Park Lane,
Croydon, Surrey,
January 18.

The vast majority of miscarriages of justice come about as a result of hard pressed police officers deluding themselves into thinking that a suspect is guilty and then manufacturing evidence to ensure, as they see it, that justice is done.

Judges and juries are inclined to believe police evidence (our whole system of criminal justice would break down if they didn't, as the police are well aware) and the Court of Appeal, having no means of knowing the evidence is false, come to believe it too.

The only way to prevent this, as I have been advocating for years, is to appoint an examining magistrate with full powers to direct the police in all serious criminal cases and to question any suspect himself, such questions and answers (or lack of them) to be fully admissible as evidence. This would eliminate the danger of most miscarriages at a stroke.

There is also, I would have thought, a case for a court of last resort as recommended by the House of Commons Committee on Miscarriages of Justice but turned down by the Home Office. Cases which go on demanding to be heard year after year are invariably the cases of innocent men.

Guiltily men, after a time, are inclined to get bored with continued assertions of their innocence. Yours etc,
LUDOVIC KENNEDY,
Ashdown, Avebury,
Marlborough,
Wiltshire,
January 12.

ets of yore, a voice in the wilderness of an aggressively brazen nationalism, but their message — that peace in Palestine can never be imposed by force or repression but must be achieved by political dialogue and mutual recognition — is as valid today as it was in 1948.

Those Jews who believe this and who renounce the misplaced loyalty of "our country, right or wrong" are a still small voice, but it is imperative that we stand up and be counted.
Yours faithfully,
BENEDICT BURNBERG,
4 Eliot Place, Blackheath, SE3,
January 11.

Credit where due

From Professor Maurice Beresford
Sir, I was naturally delighted to see (January 11) that my dedication of a book to my late mother had been remembered 30 years after its composition; but since the correspondence began with dedications to animals may I complete the circle with my more recent "To the memory of Lulu, companion in these walks during 1977 and 1978, whose four feet were usually there first" (Walks Round Red Brick, 1980).

Yours,
MAURICE BERESFORD,
6 Claremont Avenue,
Woodhouse Square,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

extra money? Why not just appoint a few more members on both sides of the House who would be financially able — at least for a given period — and expressly willing to play an active part in its affairs.

In addition, there might be (a) a withdrawal of the right to vote, though not to speak, from all peers over 70 or 75; (b) some agreed, if informal, system whereby the Government of the day always has an apparent, if small, in-built majority over the combined opposition (and the Bishops) — all active independent peers, however, continuing to vote as they please; and some insistence that all peers should apply for "leave of absence" in the event of their not guaranteeing to attend a specific number of divisions in each parliamentary session.

Naturally, if and when PR is adopted for parliamentary elections, such reforms might well have to be revised and resort be made to a thoroughgoing reform of the Lords. This, however desirable, would almost certainly, in present circumstances, have no chance of getting through the House of Commons.
Yours faithfully,
GLADWYN,
Bramfield Hall,
Halesworth, Suffolk,
January 5.

Churches' opposition to poll tax

From the Chairman of the London Churches Group and others
Sir, The London Churches Group, an ecumenical forum of senior Church leaders and directors of the social responsibility boards, would like to place on record its concern about the Local Government Finance Bill currently being debated in Parliament.

We are united in our view that the proposed community charge is unfair and unjust, and will greatly add to London's problems. The charge will be highest in the inner London boroughs, where poverty and social problems require a high level of local authority services, and the net result of the community charge and unified business rate will be a loss of resources to London's inner city.

However, the main concern of the Churches relates to the social effects of the proposals and the implications for voluntary organisations. Hard-pressed local authorities, further hampered by the burden of administering the charge, may well have to cut back yet more on their funding. There will be more pressure on advice centres as debt rises.

Charities running hostels will have to change their relationship with their clients so as to collect payments for the collective community charge from those who are apparently over 18.

The Government wants the elderly to be cared for, wherever possible, at home or in the community. The poll tax increases the cost of doing this as the old and ill will only be exempt if placed in a hospital or other residential institution.

Young people living at home are to be required to pay for local government services for the first time; hitherto the householder has paid the rates. The receipt of multiple bills for one household will increase the pressure on families and could lessen their stability.

The community charge will also greatly increase the financial burden of the Churches, for the loss of

Tax cuts for elderly

From Major A. H. R. Delens
Sir, Mr Timothy Yeo is quite wrong, in his article (January 13) about tax cuts, when he airily dismisses the "slight losers whose income was exclusively derived from investments" — a negligible group which has benefited enormously from other tax changes since 1979.

Apart from the few very wealthy, most of this group is composed of people, now 70 and over, who did not happen to be in pensionable employment — many companies did not have pension schemes — and whose age has precluded them from benefiting from the changes in pension legislation of recent years.

These people made many sacrifices in order to save a part of their fully taxed income in order to provide some sort of pension in their old age. They never asked for, nor did they receive, any form of preferential treatment, such as pension funds, employer and personal, now enjoy.

The "enormous benefit" Mr Yeo refers to was merely the abolition of the unearned income surcharge, which in this context was iniquitous to start with.
Yours faithfully,
A. H. R. DELENS,
Naval & Military Club,
94 Piccadilly, W1,
January 13.

Foam and fire

From Mrs Jan Mulligan
Sir, We have noted with sadness the number of house fires which have resulted in the deaths of young children.

When we sold our home in Washington, D.C., recently, it was a condition of sale that we install smoke detectors with a piercing alarm in order to comply with local regulations.

The detectors were cheap and very easy to install. Would not a similar regulation here be appropriate?

I am, yours faithfully,
JAN MULLIGAN,
9 Manor House Lane,
Datchet, Berkshire,
January 6.

Behind the scenes

From Mr Clive St J. Thomas
Sir, The distinguished operatic bass, Robert Lloyd, in his interview with your correspondent (January 15) decries the fact that operatic basses are fed up with playing morbid kings, veteran sages and demented or dirty old men.

He should be encouraged by remarks some years ago by the great Finnish bass, Martti Talvela, who, when asked why it was in opera that the tenor always ended up in the arms of the lovely leading soprano replied with a smile, "But not after the curtain falls!"

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE THOMAS,
Hillside House,
Wrotham, Kent.

Forms of address

From Lord Esher
Sir, Of a large collection formed over many years (letters, January 1 and 14) one of my best is "Dear Lord Mac Pribbe". (I was President of the Royal Institute of British Architects at this time).
Yours faithfully,
ESHER,
Christmas Common Tower,
Wallington, Oxford,
January 14.

the existing 50 per cent relief on the homes of clergy and ministers will mean an extra bill of some £6 million.

The plight of religious communities whose members have taken vows of poverty, many of which run vital community services such as hospices, has been highlighted and some assurance has been given that the Government will give them special consideration. Details of any such concessions are not yet known.

Yours faithfully,
PETER W. SUTCLIFFE, Chairman, London Churches Group,
PETER HALL,
Bishop of Woolwich,
THOMAS WILLESDEN,
HOWARD TRIPP, Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Southwark.

PHILIP HARVEY, Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster,
BRIAN GALLIERS, Methodist Chairman, London NE District,
MICHAEL DAVIES, Moderator, United Reformed Church, Thames North Province,
ARTHUR THOMPSON, Metropolitan Area Superintendent, Baptist Union.

PAUL BRETT, Director, Chelmsford Board of Social Responsibility,
TERRY DRUMMOND, Planning Officer, Church Army, The London Churches Group, The City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, EC1,
January 15.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 21 1883

Theological and ecclesiastical matters are perennial subjects of The Times correspondence column. This letter appeared above one from "A Welsh Vicar" stating that, at the previous Christmas, 887 of his communicants had preferred the morning to the evening service.

EVENING COMMUNIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir, — In company with many of your correspondents on this subject I cannot but regret that one holding so influential a position in the English Church as the Archbishop of York should have thought fit to speak in the manner he has of evening celebrations. It is, I venture to think, fortunate that the national Church and for the nation generally that the Archbishop, as he admits, has "no authority to forbid the practice in parishes where it exists." Since the Holy Communion can be legally celebrated in the evening, the question as to whether it should be is simply one of expediency. Assuming for the sake of argument, that evening celebrations were unknown from the earliest days of the English Church till within the present century, it is difficult to see why that is a sufficient reason for discouraging the practice now. Circumstances, it is admitted, alter cases. The circumstances and conditions of life now are not the same as they were some centuries ago; a time that was suitable for the celebration of the Holy Communion then may easily be unsuitable now. Most, therefore, the Church of England, from a false reverence for the past, refuse to adapt herself and her services to the needs of modern times? By so adapting herself she is, after all, only returning to the practice of the Apostolic Church, for it is admitted that during the first century, at least, evening celebrations were the rule, the reason simply being that that hour suited the members best. Christianity was a *religio illicita*; that is to say, its adherents were liable to be brought before the Roman authorities at any moment; her religious services were a constant source of danger. Hence the selection of night, as the most suitable time for the celebration of the Holy Supper, was but natural. In the succeeding ages of the Church evening was found for many reasons — and reasons that would hardly be appreciated from a Church of England standpoint — an unsuitable time for the celebration of the office. Now, in the present century, fresh needs arise, and surely the clergy are right to meet those needs by celebrating the Holy Communion at an hour that is alone suitable to a section of their parishioners.

In this matter "the disciple is not above his Master." If the Institutor of the rite chose the evening, if in commanding His disciples to repeat it He referred neither to place nor time, I submit that it is unreasonable to suppose that His followers would do otherwise than select for its repetition the hour that appeared best to meet their needs. It is only right that a Church calling herself the Church of Christ should give every section of her community an opportunity of observing the ordinance that her Master instituted — even if that ordinance must in some instances be celebrated at night; it is only right that a Church, professing to be the Church of the poor and hard-worked, should adapt her services to suit their needs as well as those of the rich and leisured classes.

Your obedient servant,
REGINALD B. FELLOWS,
Hatfield, Jan. 19.

BOOKS

In death they were divided

The 19th-century corpse is the subject here — whether, like that of the Duke of Wellington, it was carried to the grave in almost pagan triumph, or whether it was dissected on the slab of an anatomical theatre before being used as animal food. Both of these garish fates were visited upon the dead, and the purpose of Ruth Richardson's formidable book is to suggest why it was that even in death there was one law for the rich and another for the poor. Dr Richardson came to "death studies", as it is now called, via Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and the Anatomy Act of 1832 — surely the most grisly act of scholarship since the last biography of Ernest Hemingway — but the graveyard suits her style, and, from this undoubtedly rich soil, she has unearthed a great deal of fascinating material.

Death in the 19th century was, to borrow a Victorian expression, of the last importance. It was, after all, the gate of eternal life, and so deep was the belief in immortality that the most apparently "primitive" omens and superstitions still marked the preparation and burial of the dead departed. But there was another 19th-century tradition, too, a tra-

Peter Ackroyd reviews the Victorian market economy in human meat

DEATH, DISSECTION AND THE DESTITUTE
By Ruth Richardson
Routledge & Kegan Paul, £19.95

dition less sacred than profane, and exemplified by the second of Dr Richardson's sorrowful tripartite — "dissection". The cutting up of the body after death was described at the time as an act of "necessary inhumanity", but it takes its part in that long line of "objective" and rational practices about which we are now not so sanguine. So it is that, in *Death, Dissection and the Destitute*, Dr Richardson charts the fine stirrings of that great misnomer, "clinical detachment".

At the beginning of the last century, in fact, surgeons were only barely distinguished from barbers in the roll-calls of trades, and their willing use of grave

robbers or "resurrection men" to supply them with corpses is only the most obvious indication of the fact that they believed the human form to be no more and no less than dead meat. At one stroke, or at least cut, they exorcised all those powerful myths that hovered over the bodies of the dead. Where the majority of Victorians still believed that the dissection of the corpse was "the deliberate mutilation or destruction of identity, perhaps for eternity", the surgeons saw only the elements in a rational calculus. The sanctity of the grave was generally seen as an aspect of the greater sanctity of life itself, but the surgeons were happy to trade with the grave-robbers who charged six shillings for the first foot of a child's body and then a further ninepence for any extra inches. (Some of the incidental pleasures of this book, it has to be confessed, are morbid ones — even Burke and Hare put in a Gothic appearance, and there are some wonderful illustrations, not least that of the "cast of a man hanged at Tyburn and flayed at the Royal Academy of Arts". And I thought it only happened to painters.)

But Dr Richardson describes the details of this charnel house trade only to introduce a much



Forefathers of the RCSI: "Modern Medical Education: Actual Practice", after a cartoon by W. Heath 1825

more gruesome subject, since the Anatomy Act of 1832 is her real theme. This was the Act which determined that all those who died "unclaimed" in workhouses or in public hospitals could be used for the purposes of dissection: the punishment of dismemberment, in other words, was to be visited upon the destitute — that it was a punishment is amply borne out by the fact that, in the indignities meted out to those hanged at

Tyburn, the prospect of dissection was always the most feared. The excuse proffered by the supporters of the Act was that such a regular new supply would drive the grave-robbers out of business; but the real reason, as Dr Richardson makes clear, was simply to increase the number of fresh corpses available. The policy, pushed through with specious arguments and conducted in great secrecy, thus effectively managed to

"criminalize" the poor, and "paved the way for the systematic dismantling of older and more humanitarian methods of perceiving and dealing with poverty". It was the fear of dissection, after all, that rendered the workhouse and hospital such emblems of terror to our grandparents: in these places the state became in a literal sense a vampire, preying on the bodies of the powerless and the dispossessed.

Those of an objective turn of mind might suggest that such practices were necessary for the advancement of science; but in fact they advanced nothing but the incomes of the surgeons themselves. Certainly none of the dissections improved the hideous medical attention dispensed to the poor, and the supply of fresh corpses was primarily used as "teaching material" upon which doctors were trained in order to extract even higher fees from much richer patients. A market economy indeed, but one in which bodies were the commodities of exchange.

It is an extraordinary story, not least because this is the first occasion upon which it has been fully told. And it might be said that Dr Richardson works the "dispassionate" surgeon's trick in reverse: she begins with the calm and even jocular debates that surrounded the introduction of the Anatomy Act, and then goes on to unearth the true feelings that lay beneath them — no less in the network of power relations that led a majority of MPs to discount the fears and anxieties of the poor, than in the climate of fear and horror that the Act created.

There are occasions when *Death, Dissection and the Destitute* is difficult to read — not because of the details of putrefaction or dismemberment, but rather because Dr Richardson's narrative emphasizes the almost unimaginable callousness that can accompany even the most apparently enlightened period or respectable profession. If it is in death that we see the true meaning of life, so perhaps in "death studies" like these we glimpse the true nature of society.

El Dickens

NOVEL of the week

Victoria Glendinning

TORQUEMADA
By Benito Pérez Galdós
André Deutsch, £15.95

Reading this book, which has never been translated into English before, is like being able to unwrap it. Benito Pérez Galdós (1843-1920) is reckoned to be Spain's best novelist, a 19th-century realist to be mentioned in the same breath as Dickens and Balzac. He wrote scores of historical novels and a number of interconnected contemporary ones, of which *Torquemada*, as presented here, is not one but four in the same volume.

Galdós's *Torquemada* is not the architect of the Inquisition but a low-life crook of the same name, a money-lender and slum landlord in the socially volatile Madrid of the 1870s. These four narratives, which see him through from middle age till death, form a shrewd and funny study of someone whose emotional currency is money.

As a widower, *Torquemada* is taken up by two sisters of noble birth and gargantuan social pretensions who are on the brink of general starvation. The strong-willed older sister marries him off to the younger, and the two women devote themselves to getting this coarse, ignorant, evil-smelling creature to dress and speak like a gentleman and spend his money on them.

Galdós presents us with no sympathetic characters, yet has a clear-eyed appreciation of them all. The scheming sister, having achieved material security, becomes saintly; and without her, *Torquemada* would still be a back-street Scrooge. The arranged marriage turns out pretty well, chiefly because his young wife is happy to have clothes on her back and a dinner on the table. *Torquemada* himself is so grossly manipulated and so ridiculously lost in the class to which he is elevated that his monetary mania ends up as his one naively sincere characteristic.

What fascinates Galdós are the paradoxes of morality, and pathological mental and physical conditions. He likes describing fits, tantrums, and hysterical states. He treats food as obsessively as money. *Torquemada*'s clever son dies of meningitis, his wife of heart disease, and he himself of cancer of the pylorus. In each case the symptoms are related with clinical gusto, as is the behaviour of his sub-normal second son. Galdós was aiming at a popular audience: he writes in an ironic, gossipy way.

But 19th-century Spanish, written in spoken, was original. Translated verbatim into English, it just sounds pompous and longwinded. Some of the humour turns on *Torquemada*'s frantic misuse of the expressions he picks up in polite society. In this version, his efforts sound no more mistaken than anything else in the book. Galdós likes puns, which are mostly untranslatable. Frances López-Morillas has evolved a laboured, Latinate English corresponding to no known usage, spiked with slang words as well-placed as pickled onions in semolina pudding.

Lots of people have tried to translate Galdós's novels, including the late, great J.M. Cohen. It never seems to work. One of Europe's most important novelists, painstakingly gift-wrapped for Anglo-Saxons, remains almost, but not quite, inaccessible.

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WILBUR SMITH

THE COURTNEYS

THE FIRST THREE COURTNEY NOVELS NOW IN ONE VOLUME

WILLIAM HEINEMANN

A great week for readers who like their novelists female, fiftyish, and retrospective. For Halina, the heroine of Elaine Feinstein's *Mother's Girl*, the death of her father Leo unlocks a lifetime of memories. Childhood in pre-war Budapest, where her mother delighted audiences at the opera house while Leo exercised his charms on the maid, and Leeds, whose Jewish community welcomed the precocious little refugee dutifully rather than with enthusiasm. Exotic foreigners were less out of place in post-war Chelsea, and were eagerly embraced by the more cosmopolitan strands of intellectual Cambridge in the 1950s. To Janos Nagy, freedom fighter turned philosopher, Halina represented a double challenge. To win her he had to overcome both the opposition of his friend and fellow countryman Leo and his own preferred sexual orientation. Neither proved a significant obstacle to a man whose youth had been spent ducking beneath the sights of first German, then Russian bombardiers. Eventually, however, there was a war in which Janos finished on the losing side — without Halina and their son David.

But that was in another country: and the past never comes back

FICTION

John Nicholson

MOTHER'S GIRL
By Elaine Feinstein
Hutchinson, £10.95

HOT FLASHES
By Barbara Raskin
Bantam, £10.95

AS TIME GOES BY
By Hilary Bailey
Constable, £8.95

A CASE OF KNIVES
By Candia McWilliam
Bloomsbury, £12.95

Years later it is David who escorts his mother and Aunt Lucy — the American half-sister whom Halina has spent most of her life avoiding — away from his grandfather's funeral. Janos is there, and a small, grey woman no one recognizes. But her accent instantly recalls for Halina the

almost pastries at Gerbo's cafe in Vornomary Ter she has not tasted for nearly half a century. It also provides a tantalizing link back to the shadowy figure whose remoteness in Halina's childhood makes the book's title an ironic half truth.

Miss Feinstein is a cool, but by no means bloodless performer. She writes with great care and painful concern for the imperfect souls who people her books. Some regard her as an acquired taste. I think she is a taste well worth acquiring.

Barbara Raskin, an almost exact contemporary, represents a very different literary tradition. Where Feinstein plays her cards close to her chest, the Raskin heart is worn on its owner's sleeve. It is a bleeding, liberal heart, belonging to a Depression Baby who has been reared — and spoiled rotten — in the Jewish American Princess tradition. Miss Raskin is a Washington

journalist, with one best seller (*Loose Ends*) already tucked under her belt. I would guess that *Hot Flashes* will also raise the colour in her accountant's cheeks.

Is this it that it's nifty to be fifty. Assuming of course that you're part of the New York/Washington/San Francisco in-crowd, college-educated, and one-and-a-half times divorced with kids almost through the awkward metamorphosis from law student to corporate financier. Trendy blue-stocking Diana Sargeant's best buddy may just have pegged out from a premature cerebral haemorrhage, and she is certainly not enjoying her body's constant reminders that the bar has come down on her career as a child-bearer. But there's still fun to be had from a weekend reunion with old girlfriends, provided you all keep taking the tablets, stay faithful to Sister Solidarity — and remember that these days

Nice Guys Come In A Jiffy.

Less ambitious than *The Women's Room* and less engaging than *The Big Chill*, *Hot Flashes* will be compulsory — and compulsive — reading for anyone who enjoys remembering how the Fifties lived in the decade between 1964 and 1974 (sometimes confusingly described as the Sixties) when even the brightest and best believed that all you needed was love. The book's flavour is nostalgic. There is some regret — for opportunities missed rather than atrocities committed — but not much by way of apology.

By contrast, apologies flow from Polly Kope's lips as constant reminders that the bar has come down on her career as a child-bearer. But there's still fun to be had from a weekend reunion with old girlfriends, provided you all keep taking the tablets, stay faithful to Sister Solidarity — and remember that these days

Polly Put The Kettle On, and *Mrs Muhaney*. Under attack from her avaricious rock-star-turned-city-slicker ex-husband, and much put upon by her wheedling heroin dealer lover, Polly could do with a few of Diana Sargeant's infinitely obliging chums. Instead she has to make do with the cut-throat camaraderie of Portobello Market, and an occasional crumb of comfort from the children, grandchildren, and assorted Low Life figures who crawl out of the woodwork at Elgin Crescent when someone gives the stock-pot a stir.

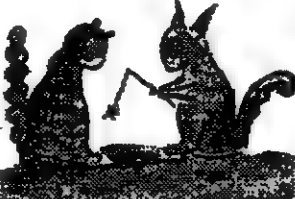
It is West London High Life that fascinates Candia McWilliam, the latest young hopeful from the fashionable Bloomsbury stable. *A Case of Knives* is one of those infuriating first novels where an obviously literary talent (bold word-play, fresh images, and startling psychological insights) struggles unsuccessfully to overcome technical incompetence (stilted plot, telegraphed denouement, unsuccessful use of multiple narrator device). In the old days there were people employed by publishers whose job it was to protect young authors from their own inexperience. They were known as editors.

Language matters

CHILDREN

Brian Alderson

PHEWTUS THE SQUIRREL
By V.H. Drummond
Walker Books, £6.95



Squirrel and doppelSquirrel

the story — her strangely formal, almost gossamer, tones highlighting the farce, which is further enhanced by her new colour-wash drawings. The sight of Morton the park-keeper dancing and dotingly singing "I've found my sweet pet" should be a lesson for all the smooth smoothness of more recent times.

● *Pinky and the Floppy Frog* and *Pinky's Part*, by Peter Firmin (André Deutsch, £1.95 each). For all that they are spin-offs from a television

series, the stories have been converted into completely natural picture books — the full-page colour pictures an entirely adequate foil to Peter Firmin's quietly amusing, and amusing, texts.

● *Awful Annie and Nippy Numbers*, by J.B. Simpson (Julia MacRae, £3.95). Annie (in the infants' class) comes over as an unexpectedly mature narrator in this comedy about the accidental loss and the deliberate burglary of a crazy piece of educational apparatus. The liveliness of her storytelling, however, and some snappy dialogue — to say nothing of John Lawrence's busy illustrations — convert routine plotline into a continuous joke.

● *Stories for Children*, by Isaac Bashevis Singer (Faber, £9.95). Severe and unillustrated, this substantial volume allows us to perceive, undistracted, the rich fond of folk tales and fables that Singer has previously had published as picture books or in illustrated collections. Most of the stories are translated from the original Yiddish, but Singer's close association with their editing ensures that this direct, precise, slightly brutal style is preserved.

NEW HARDBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

Better Together, by David Sheppard & Derek Worlock (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95) Ecumenical and joint analytical biography of Christian partnership in battered Liverpool.

Building The Tivoli, by Frank Welsh (Constable, £12.95) Account of the largest and most complex piece of nautical reconstruction ever, starting with a letter in *The Times*.

Deep Black, by William E. Burrows (Bantam, £14.95) The secrets of the satellite eyes out in space spying on us.

Jackie Cochran, by Jacqueline Cochran & Maryann Bucknum Brinkley (Bantam, £12.95) Story of fast and famous aviatrix.

South From Ephesus, by Brian Sewall (Century, £12.95) Cultivated travels in the romantic ruins of Aegean Turkey.

The Spectacle of Women, by Lisa Tickner (Chatto & Windus, £20) Imagery and symbols of the suffrage campaign 1907-14.

The Black Agent, by Laurent Gally, translated by Victoria Reiter (Andre Deutsch, £10.95) Confession of Jean-Paul Mazurier, Parisian lawyer and agent of French secret service.

The Fellow Travellers, by David Gauthier (Yale, £27.50, paperback £10.95) Revised and updated edition of this study of the intellectual friends and allies of Communism.

The Tangled Garden, by Elizabeth Coleman (Gollancz, £10.95) Growing up poor and female and exploited and Welsh in darkest Herefordshire at the beginning of the century.

Thirty Years of the Poetry Book Society, 1958-1986, edited by Jonathan Barker (Hutchinson, £12.95) Anthology from the only book club devoted entirely to contemporary poetry.

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RAGE

FOURTH PRINTING

WILLIAM HEINEMANN

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

BBC1

- 6.00 **Ceejax AM.**
6.35 **Gerry Kennedy** in *Grim and Bear It* (b/w). 6.55 **Weather.**
7.00 **Breakfast Time** with **Jeremy Paxman** and **Sally Jones**. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; and weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
8.30 **Laverne and Shirley.** American comedy series 8.55 **Regional News** and weather.
9.00 **News** and weather followed by **Open Air** presented by **Patricia Caldwell**. 9.20 **Kilroy-Silk** chairs a discussion on David Alton's abortion bill.
10.00 **News** and weather followed by **Goat for Gold (r). 10.35 **Children's BBC.** **Andy Crane** with programme details and birthday greetings followed by **Play School (r) and **The Wombles (r).
10.55 **Five to Eleven.** A reading by **Philippa Urquhart** 11.00 **News** and weather followed by **Open Air** presented by **Patricia Caldwell**.
12.00 **News** and weather followed by **Daytime Live.** **Duffin** and **nutrition** are discussed. **Ricki Barr**, **Burton's brother**, **Graham Jenkins**, talks about his controversial book; and **Anna** reviews the latest magazine 12.55 **Regional News** and weather.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with **Michael Barker.** Weather.
1.30 **News** and weather followed by **Open Air** presented by **Patricia Caldwell**. 1.50 **Goat for Gold.** European general knowledge quiz.
2.15 **File: The Mole (1983, b/w) starring **Paul Douglas** and **Alex Mackenzie.** **Savage Ealing** comedy about how a group of young chavvydars managed to humiliate a posh American tycoon. With **Hubert Gregg**. Directed by **Alexander Mackenzie.** (Ceejax)********

BBC2

- 9.00 **Ceejax 9.35 Daytime on Two** featuring **Frankie Howerd**. Middle Ages episode. 10.15 A history of bread 10.35 **Investigating Science** 11.00 **Thinkabout** 11.15 A dairy farm near Worcester 11.35 The workings of a juvenile court.
2.05 **Radioactivity** 12.25 **Music** to express feelings 12.50 The secondary science curriculum 1.50 **For the young** 1.55 **Rhythms** 6.00 **News** and weather followed by a programme about the sounds of the night.
2.30 **Homing or Helping - the New Abortion Bill (r).
3.00 **News** and weather followed by **Chronicle.** A documentary about the remarkable life of the first Emperor of China (r).
3.30 **News** and weather.
4.00 **Catchword.** Quiz game. 4.30 **Play Day.** **Angela Ripston** in and around Bath (first shown on BBC1).
4.00 **The Best of Brass.** The featured bands are **Kinfolk**, **Silver Band**, **the Mill**, **Imperial Band** and **the Sun Life Band.** 5.30 **Holiday 88 (r). (Ceejax)****

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am**
6.30 **Gerry Kennedy** in *Grim and Bear It* (b/w). 6.55 **Weather.**
7.00 **Breakfast Time** presented by **Ann Diamond** in *Australia.* After **Nerys Hughes** with part four of *The Wrestling Princess*, by **Judy Corbitt** 8.30 **Around the World with Willy Fog.**
8.55 **News** and weather.
9.00 **Give Us a Clue.** Celebrity nine game. 10.00 **Santa Barbara** 10.25 **News** and weather.
10.30 **The News.** The *News*... A topical discussion chaired by **Mika Scott** 11.15 **Puddle Lane.** Puppet series presented by **Nell Jones** 11.35 **Thames News.**
11.30 **News.** **Roy Hudd** returns to his roots in *Croft and talks* to guests who reminisce about the town's famous airport and nearby *Croft* 12.00 **The Sun.**
12.30 **News** with **Jude Sweeney** 12.55 **Thames News.**
1.00 **Charmless.** Word association game presented by **Jeremy Braine** 1.30 **Falcon Quest.** Drama serial starring **John Wynn** as the master of a Victorian wine dynasty 2.30 **News.** **Gloucester Family Favourites.**
3.30 **As Out Yesterday** presented by **Bernard Braden.** **Weatherman** **Jack Scott** looks back at archive newsreels of the terrible winter of 1962/3 3.55 **Thames News.** **Flag** 4.00 **News.** **3.55** **Thames News.** **3.55** **Sons and Daughters.**
4.00 **Croquet.** **Paul Nicholas** with the story of *Alnos* and *Lago* 4.10 **Five Minute** **Weather.** **Gabriel Byrne** illustrates how to make a spider 4.20 **The Sooty Show** with **Michael Corbett** and **Bernard Braden** 4.35 **Debut.**
4.50 **The Book Tree** presented by **Nick Wilson.** Reading suggestions for young people. (Oracle)
5.15 **Disabilities.**
5.45 **News.** **Tommy Armstrong** 6.00 **Thames News.**
6.30 **Emmerdale Farm.** **Mrs Bates** arrives for her last day at work as **Alan Turner's** secretary.

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 **Schools.**
6.30 **Business Daily.**
6.50 **Just 4 Fun.** For children.
1.00 **So We Bought a Computer.** Part three (1.00) 1.30 **The Marketing Mix.** Part two (1.00) (Oracle)
2.00 **The Parliament Programme.** 2.30 **News in View (r).
3.00 **File: Death at Broadcasting House (1934, b/w). **Arrogant actor** **Sydney Person** (Donald Woods) is murdered during the transmission of a play. **Inspector Gregory** (Ian Hunter) has no shortage of suspects. Directed by **Reginald Denham.**
4.15 **The B. K. News.** **Arrogant actor** **Sydney Person** (Donald Woods) is murdered during the transmission of a play. **Inspector Gregory** (Ian Hunter) has no shortage of suspects. Directed by **Reginald Denham.**
4.30 **File: On a Day, Out game.** (1940, b/w) starring **John McCallum** and **Honor Blackman.** Romantic comedy drama about the effect the arrival of a new, rich member has on a Yorkshire cycling club. Directed by **Reginald Denham.**
6.40 **File: On a Day.** The design of four stamps commemorating sporting centuries.****

The madness machines

TELEVISION CHOICE

40 Minutes (on BBC2, 9.30pm) presents a story of burglary, family conflicts, a threat of suicide and an attempted murder, all stemming from an horrific teenage addiction to gambling on fruit machines. As one junkie admits: "You just can't leave it alone, once you get hooked on it. It takes over your life. You wake up thinking about machines, you go to sleep thinking about machines..." Gamblers Anonymous estimates that 2,000 children a year are referred to them for machine addiction. The kids can start as young as six and by the time they are in their teens they may be spending £300 a week in the arcades. To raise the money, they have to beg, borrow or steal and in many cases stealing becomes a way of life. And so they become criminals, tearing their families apart and risking prison. There is no obvious reason for it. The boys can come from solid, respectable homes, like 17-year-old



Fruit machine addicts Jon (left) and Julian: their stories are told in this week's edition of 40 Minutes, BBC2, at 9.30pm. Adrian from Somerset who faces a long jail sentence for burglary. They can be holding down good jobs, like another 17-year-old, Julian, who when he is not gambling away his and other people's money, is a broker in a finance company. He says it is not the winning that matters, simply the playing. His addiction almost drove him to self-destruction. He stood on the edge of a platform, waiting for

Peter Waymark

Radio 1

11.00 **Midnight** (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
11.30 **News** on the last hour from 11.00 to 11.30pm, then at 11.30pm and 12.00am.
12.00 **Midnight** (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
12.30 **News** on the last hour from 12.00 to 12.30am, then at 12.30am and 1.00am.
1.00 **Midnight** (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
1.30 **News** on the last hour from 1.00 to 1.30am, then at 1.30am and 2.00am.
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THURSDAY JANUARY 21 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1409.2 (-13.8)
FT-SE 100
1752.8 (-15.2)
Bargains
23393 (23749)
USM (Datastream)
144.55 (-0.18)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7915 (+0.0155)
W German mark
2.9721 (-0.0045)
Trade-weighted
74.8 (+0.2)

Fifty more jobs go in City

LF Rothschild, the New York securities trading and investment house, yesterday announced it was sack 50 of its 70 London staff and closing its London operations trading in fixed interest and US securities. Five senior executives, traders and salesmen are being switched to New York.

Mr Richard Jackson, administrative managing director, said that 10 traders as well as support staff would be left to look after LF Rothschild's own debt and equity accounts. The firm will take no further part in Eurobonds, gilt-edged stock or US Treasury bonds, he added.

The sackings are part of a programme to cut 700 staff worldwide because of reduced market activity.

Allied up 28%

A buoyant textile industry and good return on financial assets allowed pretax profits at Allied Textiles to rise 28 per cent to £9.6 million for the year to September 30. The dividend for the year rises from 8p to 9.2p.

Microgen rise

Microgen Holdings, the computer services company, reported a 28 per cent rise in pretax profits to £2.5 million for the year to end-October from £1.9 million. A final dividend of 4p makes a total 5.5p for the year, up 38 per cent.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1883.12 (-53.25)
Dow Jones	1883.12 (-53.25)
Tokyo	22943.14 (-55.08)
Nikkei Average	22943.14 (-55.08)
Hong Kong	2484.29 (-3.86)
Amsterdam	2122.40 (-4.0)
Sydney	1285.4 (-3.2)
Frankfurt	1285.4 (-3.2)
Commerzbank	1285.4 (-3.2)
Bremen	1285.4 (-3.2)
Paris	2854.4 (+2.8)
Paris CAC	2854.4 (+2.8)
Zurich	408.7 (-5.5)
London	1752.8 (-15.2)
FT 30 Share	1409.2 (-13.8)
FT-SE 100	1752.8 (-15.2)
FT Gold Minde	281.30 (-2.80)
FT Food Index	94.51 (+0.07)
FT Govt Bond	88.35 (+0.15)
Recent prices	Page 25
Closing prices	Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS	
Body Shop	915p (+30p)
British Airways	138p (+1p)
British Telecom	472p (+18p)
Ashted	410p (+20p)
Bank of Scotland	582p (+14p)
BOC	412p (+12p)
Poly Pack	272p (+15p)
Higginbotham & Job	205p (+15p)
Parish	347p (+13p)
Bess	75p (+11p)

FALLS

UK Land	420p (-30p)
Coca Cola	557p (-20p)
BAT	434p (-12p)
BOC	382p (-13p)
Luca	582p (-17p)
Microgen	275p (-10p)
Commerzbank	1285p (-3p)
Joseph (Leopold)	425p (-15p)
Wolseley	229p (-14p)
Camford Eng	167p (-10p)
Closing prices	Page 25

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	8 1/4%
3-month Treasury bill	8 1/4%
3-month Treasury bill	8 1/4%
US Prime Rate	8 1/4%
Federal Funds	5.88-5.89%
3-month Treasury bill	5.88-5.89%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.7915	\$ £1.7925
£ DM2.9721	DM £1.5615
£ Sfr2.4212	Sfr £1.3490
£ FF10.2298	FF £1.8070
£ Yen127.75	Yen £1.2775
£ Indr74.8	Indr £1.2775
ECU £0.8320	ECU £1.2775

GOLD

London Fixing	
AM 8:00	\$477.85
Close	\$477.00-477.50 (\$268.25-267.75)
New York	
Comex	\$477.35-477.85

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) pm \$16.60 (\$16.80)	
Crude oil	
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Britoil valued at £3.5 billion

New asset figure may attract higher bid

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britoil said yesterday its oil assets were worth £3.525 billion or 699p a share. This compares with the £2.3 billion cash takeover bid from BP, which values Britoil shares at 450p each.

These figures, which arise from an independent valuation of Britoil's operations, will form the main plank of its defence against the hostile BP offer. The defence document is likely to emerge early next week.

Britoil shares moved up to 473p but there is widespread scepticism among oil analysts and at BP over the valuation, conducted by ERC, an independent consultant.

ERC itself has said such asset valuations are often far higher than the price paid for company shares.

However, Mr David Walker, the chief executive of Britoil, said the valuation was a clear vindication of his board's previous statements that BP was undervaluing the company.

"I believe it is a conservative estimate because of the long-term assumptions they make about the oil price. They make no assumption about a price rise after 1994 and by then I feel Opec will have put its price up more than half of our assets don't come into production until after that point."

"ERC has had all the information we have and it is a very robust report," he added.

Atlantic Richfield (Arco) has paid more than the 450p

offered by BP for shares in Britoil and has taken its holding up to 20.4 per cent. There is increased speculation that Arco will eventually make a full offer for Britoil, but there is also talk in the City that BP will have to raise its offer, with a price of 475p being widely mentioned.

BP yesterday said it would not comment on the valuation until it had seen the full report.

BP engineers, however, point out that their own detailed technical analysis of some Britoil North Sea assets put a far lower value on them once potential production costs are considered.

But City analysts say the ERC figures will have to be looked at seriously.

Comment 23
BP America 24

"ERC have had access to information which no analyst has ever had his hands on and while they are optimizing the information they are also showing that there is much more oil in these North Sea fields than we have thought. Where they may be able to do this is on their assumptions of the world oil price and the dollar-dollar exchange rate, but BP are in a difficulty over this. If they attack the valuation they are also in danger of attacking their own share price," said one analyst.

BP yesterday announced it was extending its present offer for Britoil from the expiry date of February 4 until at

least February 12. Under takeover rules it is able to extend the offer until March 14.

Meanwhile, in a letter to shareholders yesterday, Britoil said: "You can lose nothing by waiting until you have had the benefit of your board's full advice. That advice will be contained in a circular which will be sent to all shareholders by the end of next week."

Britoil also announced it had made a substantial discovery in its Forth block, 200 miles east of Aberdeen. The discovery in the comparatively shallow Eocene sands strata could be one of the largest in the North Sea for 10 years, but the fact was widely known and BP engineers are discounting the news as "window dressing" designed to help Britoil increase its share price.

BP, meanwhile, is the subject of share purchases by the Kuwaiti Investment Office, which has been buying the new BP partly-paid shares in the wake of the government sale of its 31.5 per cent holding.

The Government said yesterday that it would investigate the near 20 per cent holding in BP built up by the KIO.

Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general of the Office of Fair Trading, was looking into the issue.

Lord Young said: "He will advise me whether there may be a merger situation which qualifies for investigation."



In the spotlight: John Conlan (left), and Michael Cottrell, who will head First Leisure (Photograph by John Manning)

New cast replaces Lord Delfont

By Colin Campbell

Lord Delfont, head of First Leisure Corporation, the entertainment group, announced yesterday that, at the age of 78, he will relinquish the chairmanship after the group's annual general meeting in March, to become group president.

He will be succeeded as chairman by Mr Michael Cottrell.

Announcing First Leisure's final results, Lord Delfont said that despite last year's poor summer weather, there had been little negative effect on the group's resort operations, and that many had actually achieved records. He said the group is splitting its shares four ways to improve their marketability.

Group pretax profits rose from £12.7 million to £16.1 million for the financial year ended October 31 on a turnover that advanced from £59.1 million to £66.3 million.

The final dividend of 6.375p a share makes a year's total of 9.375p, compared with a total 7.5p paid in the previous financial year. The shares yesterday rose by 5p to 517p, having earlier touched 519p.

The group, formed five years ago this month following an institutional-backed buyout from Trusthouse Forte and admitted to the Stock Exchange in April 1984, owns the freeholds of two West End theatres, sports centres, three piers and various entertainment complexes in Blackpool, and 29 discos. It recently expanded into pubs.

Tempus, page 22

Treasury reassures markets

The financial markets took comfort yesterday from the fact that public expenditure appears to have entered a period of underspending, with this year's spending result £1.3 billion less than planned.

The Public Expenditure White Paper shows an estimated planning total for this year of £147.3 billion, £1.3 billion below the target set a year ago and £300 million lower than in the Autumn Statement.

The main reason for the undershoot was higher-than-expected receipts from council house and other sales.

Last year, 1986-87, there was an undershoot of £1.2 billion in the planning total.

Analysts said the figures confirmed the healthy state of public finances, with public expenditure tending to undershoot and tax revenues running well ahead of target.

The latest spending estimates contain an adjustment of £600 million for "the difference between the Treasury's view of the likely outcome of the 1987-88 and the sum of the other items."

Comment, page 23

Dollar hit by deficit fears

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The dollar fell yesterday on fears that the sharp reduction in the US trade deficit announced last week could be a false dawn.

Speculation, denied by the Commerce Department, that the November deficit would be revised up by \$3 billion added to the nervousness created by the widening of Japan's trade surplus with the US last month.

Currency analysts have been scrutinising the \$13.22 billion November trade deficit for special factors, including \$1 billion of aircraft sales to the Far East, which will not be repeated in the coming months.

Although the December US trade figures, due in the middle of next month, are expected to show a further improvement - largely due because of seasonal factors, there is normally a worsening in January and February.

The worry is that these later figures will be taken to indicate that the US trade deficit is widening again, putting pressure on the dollar.

Officials of the Group of Seven countries, while grateful for the respite provided by last Friday's trade figures, are taking the view that the dollar is not out of the woods yet.

The dollar fell to ¥127.50 from ¥128.65 and dropped by 1.7 pence to DM1.6590. The pound rose strongly, closing 1.55 cents higher at \$1.7915, pushing the sterling index up by 0.2 points to 74.8.

US inflation has reached its highest level for six years, even though consumer prices rose a modest 0.1 per cent in December.

The annual rate was 4.4 per cent, the Labour Department announced yesterday. But the seasonally-adjusted 0.1 per cent rise last month was smaller than the 0.2 per cent rise expected and followed a 0.3 per cent increase in November. Overall food price increases slowed in 1987. Without the increase in energy prices, consumer prices would have risen by 4.1 per cent last year.

Guinness attacks Panel

By Lawrence Laver

Guinness launched an attack on the Takeover Panel yesterday, the third day of its High Court challenge to the Panel's ruling that it breached the Takeovers Code in the final stages of the bid for Distillers.

Mr David Oliver QC, counsel for Guinness, criticized the Panel's investigation into a vital purchase of 10 million Distillers shares in April 1986, on the eve of Guinness winning control of the drinks group.

The shares were bought by a Swiss company called Pipetec, which the Panel considers was acting in concert with Guinness. If this decision stands then Guinness, and possibly its advisers, may have to make a multi-million pound payout to former shareholders in Distillers.

Mr Oliver said that the Panel, in reaching its decision on the share purchase last September, had applied its normal quick procedures to judge an event which had happened 16 months earlier. These were inappropriate.

"It was akin to asking the SAS to conduct an autopsy," he said. "All the dirty water had gone under the bridge. One was actually examining the river bed," he added.

switching from "an inquisitorial to an adversarial position".

At one point yesterday the spotlight turned on the role which Freshfields, solicitor to Guinness during the Distillers takeover, played at the time of the controversial share purchase.

Mr Oliver Roux, the Guinness finance director, had signed a letter to the Takeover Panel concerning the purchase which the court heard was misleading and, on one level, untrue.

A letter from Mr Roux's solicitors to the Panel last August claims, however, that

the letter was drafted by Freshfields.

It says: "So far as Mr Roux recalls the letter in question was drafted by Freshfields who carried the main responsibility for communications with the Panel on all matters."

Mr Roux believes that Mr Anthony Salz of that firm gave him the letter to sign. Mr Roux made no inquiries as to the accuracy of its contents and assumed that Mr Salz would have first cleared it both with Morgan Grenfell and Cazenove.

Freshfields declined to comment last night.

The role of a number of those involved came under renewed scrutiny yesterday.

Mr Thomas Ward, the former Guinness director who the court has been told gave instructions for the share purchase, was described as having "a penchant for decoration and concealment."

This was said at a Panel hearing on August 25 by a partner of Herbert Smith, Guinness's solicitor. At the same hearing a Guinness director said that Bank Leu had behaved "in a very unbanklike manner". The Panel considers that Pipetec is a subsidiary of Bank Leu.

'Trade partners failing to see American renaissance' Europe 'at risk' as US recovers

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US is in the middle of a manufacturing renaissance that is likely to have profoundly painful effects on the export-driven economies of Europe and Japan, Mr Clayton Yeutter, the American Trade Representative, said yesterday.

In a wide-ranging interview, in which he predicted rising international trade tensions during the final days of the Reagan Administration, Mr Yeutter said the export "boom" in manufacturing and agriculture had already shown up dramatically in recent trade and unemployment figures. US agriculture had its best exports in seven years, signalling the end of the "foreign crisis" which depressed the Midwest and the South and led to many bank failures.

Mr Yeutter said the improvement might not have occurred soon enough to temper sufficiently the protectionist legislation to be considered by Congress later this month.

Internal administration projections revealed that, over the next 12 to 36 months, trade would be the driving force of the US economy, taking up the slack caused by a slowdown in consumer spending and a sharp downturn in the service sector after the stock market crash.

The decline in the US service sector, which accounted for nine out of 10 new jobs between 1982 and 1986, was not only reflected in the massive lay-offs on Wall Street but also in the retrenching by American banks, the cost-cutting efforts of large television networks and fast food chains, and the turbulence in the advertising industry.

Japan had already acted to adjust to the end of the year.



Rising tensions: Clayton Yeutter

Mr Yeutter said he feared that in the meantime trade tensions would rise significantly as the US began difficult negotiations over specific bilateral issues with Europe and Japan. The Reagan Administration had deliberately avoided a trade confrontation during the recent, historic first meeting between the President and the Japanese prime minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita.

But in the months ahead, as Congress completed work on the omnibus trade bill opposed by the Administration, Mr Yeutter expected "contentious negotiations" with Japan. The US was not satisfied with the market-opening measures proposed by Mr Takeshita for multi-billion dollar public construction projects and they also faced tough negotiations over agricultural issues over the next month.

Tensions were also likely to increase with both Europe and Japan over the Uruguay trade round, he said. A ministerial meeting was planned but before this could occur, the EEC and Japan must move on subsidies and Japan must make politically difficult concessions on rice.

If the US was not satisfied with the Uruguay round negotiations, it would conclude more bilateral deals similar to those with Canada.

Similar deals with Japan and Asian nations have been discussed but the Reagan Administration does not have the time to undertake such complicated arrangements in its remaining months. The move toward bilateralism will be a decision for the new president.

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Cleared Standard Chartered searches for a strategy

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The potted palms lining the halls of Standard Chartered's smart City headquarters at Bishopsgate, London, were rustled by signs of relief this week as the authorities pronounced the bank to be legal, decent and honest.

The conclusions of the Bank of England's year-long investigation into Standard's conduct during the Lloyds Bank bid came as little surprise to insiders. Had anything startling been found, an announcement would have been made sooner.

Instead, as Mr Michael McWilliam, the chief executive of Standard, proudly concluded: "We have been completely vindicated. It is a great relief to have this considerable burden off our minds."

But the chilling question now facing Mr McWilliam

and his colleagues is: where next? Ever since the Lloyds bid failed in July 1986, Standard's fortunes have sunk lower. That is partly because for nearly two years the bank's management has been distracted, first by the Lloyds bid and then by the Bank of England investigation. Now at last it can return to the task of running the business.

Its immediate problem is its financial condition. Standard's equity to asset ratio, a key measure of a bank's strength, stands at 3.0. That compares with 4.4 for Lloyds, the lowest of the other British clearers, and 5.7 for Midland, the highest at present. In line with Midland, Standard was hard hit by the round of heavy debt provisioning at the half-way stage last year because of its high exposure to Third World countries.

To rectify this position it is still trying to sell Union Bancorp, its Californian banking subsidiary which includes United, the Arizona bank. Or it may sell the two banks separately. Mr McWilliam hopes to have fixed a sale within the next month, probably to a US bank. (Wells Fargo is believed to be a front runner.) If, at a rough estimate, it receives £600 million altogether for the US operations, its equity to asset ratio will immediately jump to about 4.5.

That is still at the low end of the scale, however, and a further rights issue could be on the cards in the spring or early summer. Just as Midland held a rights issue but then raised a rights again from other sources to provide extra padding against future shocks, Standard may do the same.

Then it faces the problem of a strategy. A year ago a core element of its plans was expansion in the US. The decision to sell Union has made that idea redundant, but so far there is no sign that Standard has thought of anything to replace it.

It has some potentially very profitable operations in the Far East, some businesses of dubious value in Africa and, above all, no British retail deposit base. Standard has repeatedly said it would like a firm base in Britain but looks no closer to that goal than before.

Disappointingly for Standard, one obvious avenue — a link with a building society — has been made no easier by recent building society legislation.

But unless the bank comes up with a credible strategy soon it risks facing another takeover attempt or pressure to split up the group and sell off its parts piecemeal.

Quite where the white squires fit into the scene is a mystery. Sir Yue-Kong Pao and Mr Robert Holmes & Court still hold 14.9 per cent each, while Tan Sri Khoo Teck Part holds just over 7 per cent. They are all looking at massive paper losses since they bought their shares at about £8 compared with 515p yesterday.

Not surprisingly, then, the shares have sunk so far that they are offering an astonishing 9.4 per cent yield. That compares with between 4.5 and 7.0 per cent for the other clearers.

COMMENT

R-R's foreign investors given a rough ride

The Rolls-Royce flotation is fast turning into a nightmare for some unfortunate foreign shareholders. Even though they may have been shareholders from the day of issue, they are to have their shares re-possessed and sold off at a sizeable loss. Even more oddly, other foreign shareholders who bought Rolls stock in the market long after the flotation will escape that costly fate.

The forced sale arises because overseas holdings in the aero engine company grew to a level well in excess of the maximum 15 per cent ceiling laid down in the prospectus. Despite repeated warnings from the company of the dire consequences that would follow, foreign holders at one point accounted for more than 20 per cent of the Rolls equity.

Not surprisingly, the company has been cajoled, abused and threatened by luckless small investors, some seeking compensation, others consolation. Their anger, however, is misdirected. The villain of the piece appears to be the vendor of Rolls shares, Her Majesty's Government, which sanctioned the details of the share sale. Unlike other state share offerings, Rolls was allowed to leave the runway without provision for a temporary share register. This blunder lies at the heart of the rough justice which will be meted out when some 30 million shares bought by foreign investors are forcibly sold early next month.

Hopefully, the omission of a temporary register was more a case of official amnesia rather than deliberate penny pinching. Either way, it meant that shareholders were not registered as such until they paid their second instalment of 85p before the deadline of September 22 last year. There was no restriction on paying up in advance of the deadline and those who did so entered the register first.

The details have yet to emerge, but at some time around September 14, foreign holdings on the register passed the critical 15 per cent stake. Despite meeting their legal obligations in full, those who paid thereafter were in the cold, even if they held their shares since last May's offer for sale. In today's conditions, they are unlikely to receive much more than 130p a share compared with the 170p offer price. As one rueful US victim put it: "This does for people's capitalism what the Boston Strangler did for door-to-door salesmen."

Happiness is a PSNR

John Major's emphatic statement that there would be no upward revision of government spending plans next year may not have pleased the sick but ought to have gone down well in the City. These days, however, the Chief Secretary could expound a £100 billion plan to build a brick wall

round Britain and the financial markets would hardly notice. Sentiment in bond and share markets is more attuned to the jumping on the global merry-go-round driven from Wall Street.

That is short-sighted. The predicted net repayments of national debt in the current financial year — heralding the new jargon term PSNR — have been solely in terms of alternative tax cuts and health spending. But they have important implications for their own. The PSNR, to be sure, is still putative; the longer-term effects of the crash have yet to show themselves (though they should not unduly affect privatization proceeds centred on further instalments on British Gas and BP). The Chancellor is likely to leave a big margin for error, however, implying a continuing tight fiscal policy.

The fiscal benefits of a PSNR should also not be neglected. As a table in yesterday's *Spending White Paper* shows, debt interest has already fallen from 5 per cent of national income in 1985-86 to a predicted 4 per cent in 1988-89 and 3.5 per cent in 1990-91. That cut of 1 per cent itself pays for a 2.5p cut in income tax — or, if you prefer, another £3.5 billion for the National Health Service.

BP mote, Britoil beam

The wonderful aspect of valuations of oil which has yet to be lifted is that the final result can be manipulated by the assumptions on which the valuation is based. So British Petroleum is almost duty bound to cast some stones at the Britoil valuation produced by Robertson ERC, either on the grounds of the oil price, exchange rates or production levels. However, BP cannot progress too far along the road to rubbishing the assumptions, because to do so it would begin to undermine the value of its own North Sea assets.

The Robertson ERC valuation assumes that the exchange rate falls to \$1.50 and the oil price rises to \$27 a barrel in 1994. This gives a sterling oil price of £18 in 1994, seven years from now, nearly double today's price of around £9.50.

Reasonable? It does not take an elephantine memory to recall that a few years ago a succession of Texan and Canadian oilmen, and their brokers, paraded in all seriousness valuations based on an oil price rising to \$75 a barrel within a few years. The valuations were convincing enough for the banks and many an investor. By the time they were proved hopelessly wrong, the hustlers had taken their money and probably put it into real estate.

By 1994, nobody will remember whether Robinson ERC erred on the side of caution or optimism. What is important is whether the valuation stands up against what is a reasonable prediction today. It does.

Société suspension continues

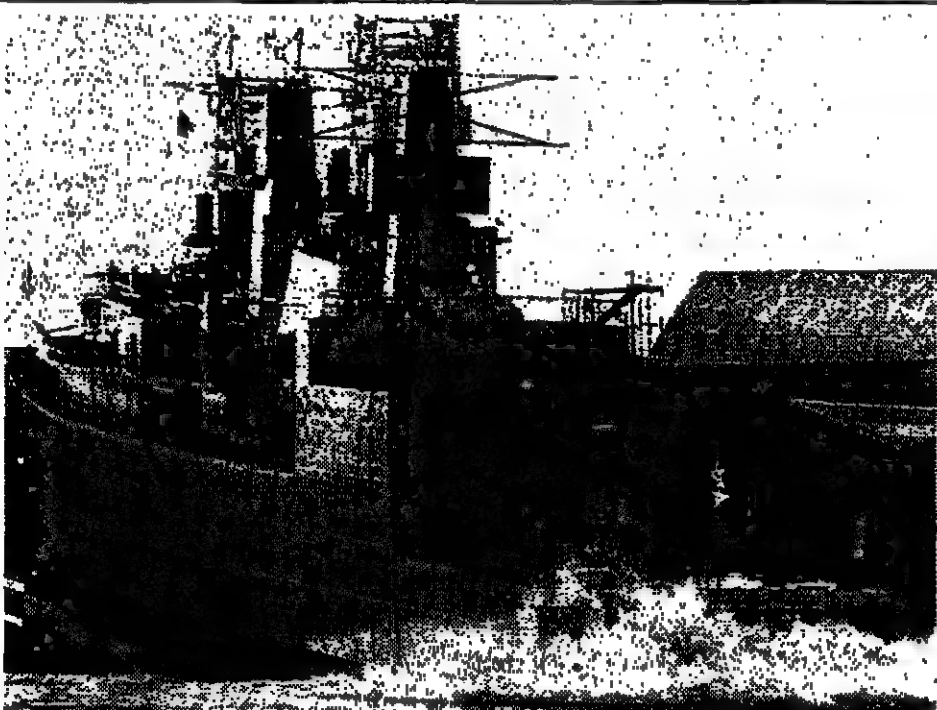
BRUSSELS (Reuters) — Trading in shares of Société Générale de Belgique, Belgium's largest company, will remain suspended until further notice, a spokeswoman for the Brussels bourse's Quotation Committee said yesterday.

On Monday, trading was suspended for two days at the request of Mr Mark Eyskens, the Belgian finance minister, after Signor Carlo de Benedetti, the Italian financier, had announced plans to raise his stake in Société Générale through a public offer.

The spokeswoman said there was no reason to restart trading in the stock as the Belgian Banking Commission, which regulates takeovers, was still studying the offer.

A finance ministry spokesman said Mr Eyskens had asked the committee to extend the suspension a further day after consulting the Banking Commission. The suspension applies to warrants and convertible bonds as well as shares, he said.

A spokesman for the Banking Commission said the authority held discussions yesterday morning on Signor de Benedetti's offer but had yet to take a decision on it. Mr Walter Van Gerven, the president of the commission, said on Tuesday that it was considering whether the offer had been submitted to it in regular fashion.



Making a splash: HMS Chatham enters the Tyne in Neptune yard's last launch yesterday

Privatized yard slashes costs

By Our Industrial Editor

Swan Hunter, the Tyneside shipbuilder privatized in a management buy-out two years ago, has slashed production costs by more than a fifth and is trading with "reasonable" profits.

The yard has orders until the end of 1992 and a new consultancy division selling Swan Hunter expertise has been so successful that Swan Hunter, after five years of labour cut-backs, is recruiting again.

This cheerful news in an industry noted for its gloom

came yesterday from Mr Alex Marsh, Swan Hunter's chief executive, at Swan Hunter's launch of the frigate HMS Chatham.

But he called for early decisions on the Navy's surface fleet because it would be "an essential foundation" for the industrial drive for efficiency.

Mr Marsh said: "Until these points are resolved and Government is able to give industry firm direction as to its thinking and strategy we

will plan in a vacuum, stifling growth, investment and competition."

The launch was the last from the company's Neptune yard at Walker, Newcastle. Shipbuilding will now be concentrated at the nearby Wallsend yard.

HMS Chatham was the last of three Type 22 frigates for the Royal Navy built by Swan Hunter. It is now working on a Type 23 frigate, HMS Marlborough, due to be delivered towards the end of 1990.

Stanley pots £1.63m

By Alison Eadie

Stanley Leisure Organisation, the betting, casino and snooker club operator, made pretax profits in the half year to October 25 of £1.63 million compared with £1.3 million the previous year. Turnover increased to £37.3 million from £27 million.

Stanley is boosting its racing division through the £1.3 million acquisition of J Fletcher, which has 11 licensed betting shops on Merseyside and made pretax profits of £89,150 in the year to end-January. Stanley bought seven betting shops from David Hudson Racing in the Wigan and Salford areas this year.

Trading continues at a satisfactory level, the company said. Margins in the racing division are lower than last year, but turnover continues to improve at an acceptable level.

Satellite Information Services, the horse and greyhound racing service beamed into betting shops by satellite, has fitted its service into a number of Stanley's shops but the roll-out programme has not been as quick as expected, Stanley said.

All three casinos traded at improved levels and the new snooker division has started well. The company intends to develop snooker further.

The interim dividend was raised to 1.5p from 1.31p.

Beecham Pharmaceuticals shake-up

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Beecham Pharmaceuticals, a part of the Beecham Group, is strengthening its top management.

The company wants additional growth and tighter management control to avoid expensive delays in co-ordination between departments.

Mr Paul Tatman, now president of the US pharmaceutical operation, will take the newly-created post of managing director in April.

Part of his job will be to control two new central marketing and licensing de-

partments. The first will be a catalyst for new ideas and the second for developing internationally the joint marketing of its own and other companies' products.

Mr Ray Giles, head of Beecham's Japanese operation since 1978, becomes licensing director, and Dr Tim Melton director of development projects. Dr Melton will run a new project management system aimed at bringing products to market more quickly.

The changes were announced yesterday by Mr James

Polard, chairman of Beecham Pharmaceuticals. He said: "With more new compounds in development than ever before, the changes are aimed at substantially improving our rate of growth."

Beecham has increased spending on pharmaceuticals research in the past five years by 55 per cent. Last year it was more than £80 million. In the past five years, the pharmaceuticals division has increased sales by 44 per cent to £770 million with the trading profit — struck before research and development charges —

up 42 per cent to £249 million.

Development of a new pharmaceutical product, from the initial idea into the hands of the doctors, can cost as much as £100 million. "Clearly this expenditure is only worthwhile if the time and cost of development is minimized and the market potential is maximized. This can only be achieved through the close co-ordination of all the departments concerned. In the past, responsibility for this function in Beecham was split and, on occasions, led to expensive delays."

Nice guy finishes first

"I don't intend to sit in God's waiting room," Lord Delfont said time and again yesterday, clearly considering it an apt description of retirement. At a press conference to announce the results of his company First Leisure, and what had been assumed to be his retirement — elevation from chairman to president — the peer, aged 78, confessed: "I can't retire — this is the only thing I've ever known." Uprooted from his native Russia when he was three, and part of the phenomenally successful Winogradsky family — now Grade — Bernie was brought up in London's East End and had his first taste of fame alongside his brother Lew in the music halls. "I changed my name to Delfont because my theatrical agent thought it would be less confusing alongside Lew," he explained. Long since an established jet-set figure, with homes in Hampstead, Sussex and Cannes, Bernie says his only remaining ambition is to be remembered as "a nice chap. Some people say you have to be ruthless to succeed, but that's not true." The secret of his longevity is, he says, no fresh air, no exercise, eight Monte Cristos a day and a few whiskies. He is additionally unusual in that he has been happily married for almost 42 years. "It's our anniversary on Friday." But a word of warning to Michael Cretell, who takes over as chairman after the AGM on March 15. That was a far from fortunate date for Julius Caesar.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Pushing the boat out

There will be a few sore heads on Britain's building sites tomorrow — not to mention at Barclay de Zotte Weid's dealing desks. Partially to celebrate the long-awaited arrival of building team leader Charles Daumery — who was held rigidly to his six-month "sitting in the garden" period by previous employer Savory Mills — but also to allow BZW's building sector market makers to meet institutional

and corporate clients, the firm last night hosted a party for 150 guests aboard The Regalia, a barge moored at Swan Pier, alongside BZW's City offices in Elgar House. "We've never done this sort of thing before," says research director David Advani, "but it was something Savory Mills had done regularly and we imported the idea from them, along with their team." Touché!

Scott land

The application by a consortium comprising Taylor Woodrow, BP and RTZ to build Britain's largest on-shore gas field in the Vale of Pickering, North Yorkshire, has hit opposition from a famous quarter. With the final decision to be taken by North

Yorkshire County Council within the next week or two, the local district council has just unanimously rejected the application. One of those who spoke out loudest against it was none other than Charles Scott, the chairman of Ryedale District Council's amenity committee, and a man perhaps better known for being the father of Selina Scott, a journalist well-known for her love of the countryside. "This scheme would rip the area apart and ruin it completely, for a gas reserve which has a life of only four or five years," he told fellow councillors.

All's fair . . .

Is this the latest in psychological warfare with shareholders, I wonder? The letter sent by Barker & Dobson to persuade Dee Corporation investors to accept its takeover offer was mailed in envelopes bearing the manufacturer's inscription, "Dee Cartridge."

Going publican

If you cannot make money out of oil, make it out of someone who can. Such might be the motto of Grant Heating, the US director of Firstland Oil, whose shares are being traded on the USM for the first time this week. As the oil price plunged from \$40 a barrel to \$8 in 1986, Heating, then chief executive of Sigma Resources, looked for an alternative investment. "I figured that what had happened to the price of oil could never happen to the price of beer, so I bought a pub," he says. He and his family took over the Royal Oak, a secluded free house in the heart of the South Downs, and the Hookway House hotel next door. Late last year a team of engineers and drilling staff from Carlless, Capel & Leonard turned up in Chilgrove, two miles down the road, and spent two months drilling for — you have guessed it — oil. And they all checked in at — yes, right again — Hookway House.

It may well be that President Reagan is destined to be remembered by future generations as the Governor of California rather than as the President of the United States of America. The first turf has just been turned on a skyscraper in his home state, which will have multiple towers. Publicity material for the building, which will stand some 17 storeys high and is due to be completed in three years' time, boasts that it will be called "The Ronald Reagan Building" — after our former Governor.

Carol Leonard

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8	British Airways	Transport	
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13	British Airways	Transport	
14	British Airways	Transport	
15	British Airways	Transport	
16	British Airways	Transport	
17	British Airways	Transport	
18	British Airways	Transport	
19	British Airways	Transport	
20	British Airways	Transport	
21	British Airways	Transport	
22	British Airways	Transport	
23	British Airways	Transport	
24	British Airways	Transport	
25	British Airways	Transport	
26	British Airways	Transport	
27	British Airways	Transport	
28	British Airways	Transport	
29	British Airways	Transport	
30	British Airways	Transport	
31	British Airways	Transport	
32	British Airways	Transport	
33	British Airways	Transport	
34	British Airways	Transport	
35	British Airways	Transport	
36	British Airways	Transport	
37	British Airways	Transport	
38	British Airways	Transport	
39	British Airways	Transport	
40	British Airways	Transport	
41	British Airways	Transport	
42	British Airways	Transport	
43	British Airways	Transport	
44	British Airways	Transport	
45	British Airways	Transport	
46	British Airways	Transport	
47	British Airways	Transport	
48	British Airways	Transport	
49	British Airways	Transport	
50	British Airways	Transport	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

BRITISH FUNDS

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

1987 High Low Stock Price Change

BREWERIES

1	Adnams	100	100	100	100
2	Beck's	100	100	100	100
3	Carlsberg	100	100	100	100
4	Guinness	100	100	100	100
5	Heineken	100	100	100	100
6	King	100	100	100	100
7	Meux	100	100	100	100
8	Stout	100	100	100	100
9	Tennent	100	100	100	100
10	Watson	100	100	100	100

BUILDING, ROADS

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
2	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
3	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
4	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
5	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
6	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
7	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
8	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
9	Acetylene	100	100	100	100
10	Acetylene	100	100	100	100

CINEMAS, TV

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

DRAPERY, STORES

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

ELECTRICALS

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

FINANCE, LAND

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

FOODS

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

HOTELS, CATERERS

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

S-Z

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

INSURANCE

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

LEISURE

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

MINING

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	100
8	Day	100	100	100	100
9	Ellis	100	100	100	100
10	Farrel	100	100	100	100

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1	Amey	100	100	100	100
2	Balfour Beatty	100	100	100	100
3	Bechtel	100	100	100	100
4	Bois	100	100	100	100
5	Brace	100	100	100	100
6	Chubb	100	100	100	100
7	Costain	100	100	100	10

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Starting index compared with 1876 was up at 74.8 (day's range 74.7-74.8).

Ireland	1.6960-1.5975	Denmark	6.3800-6.3950	Italy	1222.0-1223.0
Singapore	2.0200-2.0210	W Germany	1.6530-1.6542	Belgium (Com)	34.75-34.78
Malaysia	2.5500-2.5510	Switzerland	1.9527-1.9537	Hong Kong	7.7575-7.7585
Australia	0.7100-0.7130	Netherlands	1.6701-1.6711	Portugal	138.95-139.45
Canada	1.2300-1.2340	France	5.6110-5.6140	Spain	119.08-119.13
Sweden	5.9370-5.9390	Japan	127.72-127.82	Austria	13.71-13.73
Greece	6.3570-6.3600	India	25.72-25.73	Bank	MOEX and others

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %				
Selling: 2 mths: 0-1% 3 mths: 0-1 1/2%				
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)				
1 mth: 0-1/2-0%	2 mths: 0-2-0%	3 mths: 0-2 1/2-0%		
Trade Bills (Discount %)				
1 mth: 0-2	2 mths: 0-2 1/2	3 mths: 0-3		
Interbank (%): Overnight: open 0-1% close 0-1/2%				
1 mth: 0-1/2-0%	1 mth: 0-1/2-0%	3 mths: 0-1/2-0%		
6 mths: 0-1/2-0%	9 mths: 0-1/2-0%	12 mths: 0-1/2-0%		
Currency				
7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	
0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	
Debit/credit: 0-1/2-0%				
0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	
Forward Premium: Call 0-1/2-0%				
70-75%	0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	0-1/2-0%	
Sterling Premium: Call 0-1/2-0%				
11-11	11-11%	20-25%	20-25%	
Call: 0-1/2-0%				
4-4 1/2%	4-4 1/2%	4-4 1/2%	4-4 1/2%	

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES											
	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling						US Treasury 90 Day					
Mar 82	90.30	90.30	90.20	90.20	25415	Mar 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10239
Apr 82	90.30	90.30	90.20	90.20	10	Apr 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
May 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	May 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Jun 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Jun 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Jul 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Jul 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Aug 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Aug 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Sep 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Sep 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Oct 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Oct 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Nov 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Nov 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Dec 82	90.30	90.40	90.30	90.40	10	Dec 82	90.20	90.30	90.20	90.20	10
Three Month Eurodollar						Japanese Gov 30 Day					
Mar 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	2698	Mar 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	1054
Apr 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Apr 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
May 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	May 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Jun 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Jun 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Jul 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Jul 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Aug 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Aug 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Sep 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Sep 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Oct 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Oct 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Nov 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Nov 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10
Dec 82	92.40	92.60	92.40	92.50	10	Dec 82	106.50	106.60	106.50	106.50	10

[illegible][illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES											
	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling						US Treasury 90 Day					
Mon	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	25415	Mon	90.22	90.30	90.22	90.22	10239
Tue	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Tue	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Wed	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Wed	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Thu	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Thu	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Fri	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Fri	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Three Month Eurodollar						US Treasury 180 Day					
Mon	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	25415	Mon	90.22	90.30	90.22	90.22	10239
Tue	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Tue	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Wed	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Wed	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Thu	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Thu	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Fri	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Fri	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Three Month Euroyen						US Treasury 360 Day					
Mon	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	25415	Mon	90.22	90.30	90.22	90.22	10239
Tue	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Tue	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Wed	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Wed	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Thu	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Thu	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239
Fri	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24	100	Fri	90.22	90.22	90.22	90.22	10239

[illegible][illegible]

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

January 21, 1988

Ian Ashworth, a head-hunter, says British businesses would retain their best employees by redistributing incentives

The escalating value of senior executives' fringe benefits — mortgage relief, pensions, bonuses and share options — has been well documented in recent months, with perks worth up to 35 per cent of basic pay now not uncommon. But this trend is not necessarily best for the individual or for the employer. In fact, compared with European or American companies, the UK places excessive emphasis on personal perks relative to "corporate perks".

What do I mean by "corporate" perks? In the UK, most companies and executives regard the perks system as payment in kind. It is simply a means of distributing a salary tax-effectively by offering a subsidy to purchase needs outside of work, for example, cars, mortgage relief.

On the other hand, a company embracing more of a "corporate" perks system thinks more about keeping employees with well thought-out incentive bonuses and share-option schemes. It also aims to get more from the individual by improving the quality of the working environment.

Perks for all are the key to a loyal and effective workforce



Too much concentration on personal perks is divisive and fosters an individualistic hedonistic approach. A Porsche may be an incentive to join, but is it an incentive to stay? Furthermore, a Porsche is not necessarily going to improve an individual's commitment to the job or foster a team approach. And who needs a Porsche in London? Is that really what the executive wants?

Only 20 per cent of senior executives' company cars are essential for work — the rest enjoy the perk as a pure status symbol.

Employers need to be more imaginative about executive benefits than this.

Similarly, bonuses when applied to some at the expense of others may motivate certain employees in the short term, but do greater harm by dampening team spirit.

Again, if we look at the United States, we see that bonuses and profit-sharing are likely to be offered to all executives, recognizing that all members are contributing to corporate success.

I would even go so far as to argue that too much emphasis is placed on the commission-related bonus for the sales executive, with insufficient recognition for the less easily measured success of non-sales staff.

The marketing executive, the research and development director and the production manager are all just as crucial to the commercial success of a company, and should be motivated accordingly. And highly rewarded individuals will refuse to move out of a sales position if the alternative

reward structure compares unfavourably.

Are share options an incentive to stay? Certainly, an increasing number of firms are offering share-option schemes to a wider cross-section of employees and this is a trend I warmly embrace. Share options are much more of an incentive to stay with a firm than a prestige car. But Government still needs to relax the tax burden considerably in this area.

US companies provide a good example of how an improved working environment — from

gymnasiums and swimming pools to crèche facilities and health care benefits — can reap considerable benefits for the employer. There should also be more tax incentives for companies to provide such facilities.

Of course, the very senior executive is unlikely to be wedded to a company just because of a swimming pool or crèche facility, but declines in absenteeism and improvements in executive productivity among firms who pay attention to these areas have been well documented. And the benefits of a company health-care system speak for themselves.

Management training can go further still. Employers can also contribute towards employee productivity in a more direct way, by funding further education and offering sabbatical leave. Management training in the UK has come a long way, but we can go further still. Again, in the US employers offer key staff one-year Master of Business Administration courses in return for their commitment to stay with the firm afterwards for a given period.

I am not arguing for the return of the nanny employer or the

Japanese-style "employer for life" syndrome. Executive mobility is good for the individual and good for industry. But are we getting the best out of our executives while they are with us?

Nor am I suggesting a bland scenario where all companies offer identical packages. Companies should still strive for the most competitive perks package. For example, in the US, health-care benefits are now taken for granted and companies are attempting to win and keep staff through attractive dental care schemes and crèche facilities.

A transfer of resources from personal perks to corporate perks and incentive schemes is now well overdue. The result for those companies that embrace this approach seriously will be a committed, loyal and enthusiastic workforce and management that will look upon their employer as a true partner in their long-term welfare and success.

Ian Ashworth is chairman and founder of Ian Ashworth & Associates, a London-based executive search firm specializing in senior management appointments

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£11,000 — July Review

A major international service organisation employing some 1700 people in Central London, requires a bright alert graduate with formal work experience who is capable of undertaking logistical planning in a fast moving people orientated environment. This position will appeal to those who are analytical thinkers, good communicators and who like people and pressure. Age 23-30 years. Excellent benefits and working conditions including paid overtime.

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APPOINTMENTS LTD
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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DESIGN STUDIES:

SALARY £14,000. p.a.

Required by design school, Belgrave. Lecturing, tutorial and administrative duties. Please apply, with c.v. and references to:

Director of Administration
Inchbald School of Design,
7 Eaton Gate
London SW1W 9BA.

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

Science and Engineering Research Council

The Science and Engineering Research Council was incorporated by Royal Charter under the Science and Technology Act 1965. It currently has an annual budget of £360 million and permanent staff of 2,650, of which 480 are based at the Swindon Office and the remainder at the four scientific establishments supporting large-scale research facilities. One of the Council's primary functions is to provide support to universities and polytechnics for research and postgraduate training across the whole range of science and engineering.

The Council is now seeking to fill two top management vacancies:

DIRECTOR LABORATORIES £41,000

Swindon

The Council has reorganised its senior staff structure and is seeking a Director Laboratories, a new post, to be based in Swindon.

The Director Laboratories will be responsible for the Council's four scientific establishments and will be one of three Directors immediately responsible to the Chairman of Council, the group collectively forming the Council's Management Board.

The scientific establishments (Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Daresbury Laboratory, Royal Greenwich Observatory and Royal Observatory Edinburgh) provide advanced research facilities for the academic community. The primary task of the Director Laboratories is to achieve coherence between the four establishments and integration of their management within the Council as a whole. He/she will ensure that the total resource envelope of money, equipment and manpower is allocated flexibly and cost effectively across establishments in line with Council programmes and policies.

The successful candidate will be an experienced manager capable of exercising broad based judgement in reconciling opposing resource requirements. He/she will have detailed insight and understanding of intramural work in the Council and how it fits into the national and international scene.

The annual salary will be £41,000.

Ref: DLT/1

DIRECTOR DARESBUURY LABORATORY up to £37,000

Cheshire

The post of Director of the Daresbury Laboratory will become vacant in Summer 1988 on the retirement of Professor L. L. Green.

Daresbury Laboratory is located within a few miles of Warrington, Cheshire. The Laboratory provides experimental facilities to scientists from universities and polytechnics over a wide variety of research programmes. The two major facilities are the Nuclear Structure Facility (NSF) - a Van de Graaff accelerator for nuclear structure research - and the Synchrotron Radiation Source (SRS) serving a wide range of scientific disciplines. Both are among the world's best machines of their kind. The facilities run continuously and the Laboratory serves a very large and scientifically disparate user community. In addition, the Laboratory has an important role in scientific computing, particularly through the Collaborative Computational Projects (CCPs), and especially involving distributed parallel computing, which involve both academic and Daresbury scientists.

The Director is responsible for the overall management of the Laboratory, which has a staff of about 550, and its research programmes and funds. He/she is also responsible for advising the Council, its Boards and Committees on technical aspects of research proposals and other matters connected with the operation of the central facilities and the management of the Laboratory's work. The Director is also expected to encourage liaison between the researchers using the Daresbury facilities and those within the corresponding international community, industrial research groups and other sponsors of research in the UK.

The successful applicant will be of high scientific repute, able to interact knowledgeably and with confidence with the scientific communities concerned, and will have had substantial management ability and experience.

The post is graded at Grade 3, with an annual salary scale of £34,000 - £37,000.

Staff of the Council are not Civil Servants but enjoy similar conditions of service, including a non-contributory superannuation scheme. Some assistance with expenses for house sale/purchase may be available. Although these posts are permanent, the Council is willing to consider filling them by means of fixed-term appointment or by secondment from another organisation if necessary.

Further details of these posts are available from the Establishment Officer, Science and Engineering Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN2 1ET. (Telephone: (0793) 26222 Ext 2194/2329). Applications, including the names of two referees and a full Curriculum Vitae should be forwarded, in confidence, quoting reference number, to the same address. The closing date for applications is 12th February 1988.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.



Science and Engineering Research Council
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire SN2 1ET

EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS

Slade Egor International is a successful and expanding UK executive search consultancy and part of a rapidly expanding international network.

Continuing growth in the UK demands the appointment of several experienced consultants to assist our British and International clients.

Candidates must be educated to at least degree level, be aged 30 plus and have

sound commercial and consulting experience. Outstanding remuneration packages will be negotiated to attract and retain the best people.

For a confidential discussion please contact Jim Hayman, Managing Director, Slade Egor International on 01-629 8070 or forward a detailed CV, quoting reference No. L328, to him at 58 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1LD.

International Search and Selection

SLADE EGOR INTERNATIONAL

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Are you an experienced manager, male or female, living in London, currently unemployed and interested in helping small-medium sized companies?

You need at least ten years experience, plus the enthusiasm to tackle a project and see it through. Our M.S.C. backed retaining programme plus three months assignment could open fresh job opportunities.

For details write with CV:
Business Development Centre
Thames Polytechnic,
FREEPOST, London SE18 6BP
or ring 01-854 2030 ext. 454/455.

JOB SEARCH SUCCESS

No matter whether you are seeking another job or considering a new career, we can provide you with effective and professional help.

Our service is tailor-made to your needs and circumstances. With coverage of both advertised and unadvertised vacancies, we aim for more success - in less time and at less cost.

For a free, confidential discussion, senior executives are invited to contact us at:

Mainland
Elizabeth House,
22 Suffolk Street,
Birmingham B1 1LS.

Executive Services

ARABIC SPEAKING TRAINEE

American Entertainment Company offer a rare opportunity to train as a Sales Executive. You will be positive, polite and career-minded. Some work experience is essential - not necessarily in this industry. You should be free to travel. Mid to late 20s £13,000 to start.

Please Sue Norman at Meridian Assoc. (Rec Cons) 01-255 1555.

TRAINING IN MILAN

We need people to run our Milan based courses for Italian executive, helping them to improve their communication skills in English. You should be a good communicator yourself and able to bring this out in other people. The job calls for the ability to motivate groups of successful and demanding business people, and to take responsibility for their developments during the course. You must be able to work independently. Candidates can be graduates in any discipline but must have at least 2 years industrial or commercial experience.

Starting salary approximately £13,500 K pa rising to £14,000 K+ in the 1st year with 10 weeks holiday and other benefits.

Please send full c.v with telephone contact number to:

Mr Oliver Hibbert The Canning School
Canning Srl, 4 Abington Rd
Via Sanremo 9, London 6AF
20133 Milan
Italy.

INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE

Test your selling skills marketing and promoting up-market electronic board games. Smart, self-motivated, enthusiastic, well educated, aged 19 + 25. Positions in major Central London department stores and Oxo. Immediate start - short and long-term. Good basic plus generous commission.

Tel. 01-677 1700

SALES & MARKETING

For a health screening consultancy based in the West End.

Are you a successful Sales Executive?

Looking for an unusual rewarding opportunity? If so, accept the challenge we can offer.

We need an experienced, successful and highly motivated Sales Executive to call our total health screening service to prestigious corporate clients mainly in board level. You will work closely with Medical Director and initially will have sole responsibility for creating new business.

Your success will be well rewarded through an attractive income scheme linked to results. In addition to a basic salary of less than £25,000 and a company car will be provided.

Interested? Then call John Evans at The Harley Group on 01-466 4331

SATURDAY SALES PERSON

for a small expanding Knightsbridge shoe shop. Must have knowledge of fabrics and sales experience. £3,000 per annum +.

Ring Hugh Ellis, Peter Davidson Ltd 288 6222.

WORK **** HARD AND EARN £20,000 IN 1ST YEAR

We are head-hunting for bright, young (22-28) intelligent people, who can communicate effectively and want rapid career development.

You will be trained over long hours and will be expected to have a high level of personal integrity together with a commitment to "getting the job done".

Our client is part of a well-established public company with branch offices all over greater London and the Home Counties.

They are looking for additional staff for 125 branches and need to

recruit "potential managers" to take them into the 90's.

"Get rich quickers" need not apply. They are looking for a long term commitment and will provide full back-up and support to ensure that you succeed.

The start date for the programme will be mid April. You should be ready to begin then.

An understanding of "figures" and finance is essential.

CALL JOHN PEARCE
ON
01 242 0180.

NATIONAL SALES MANAGER - DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

c.£30,000 + Car

THE JOB:

Recent growth and planned expansion create the need for a thoroughly professional man or woman to be responsible for:

- managing the national sales force
- increasing the production of the company's Branded products through independent high street retailers
- developing promotional and marketing campaigns
- making a full contribution to the overall development of Brand profitability within the business.

THE COMPANY:

Is highly personal in its attitude and strong in the quality of its earnings, products and reputation. It is presently located in North London and later this year will move to the West End. It is not envisaged that potential candidates presently living outside London will need to relocate.

THE FUTURE:

This position represents an outstanding opportunity for an energetic professional to help develop a vigorous and successful business.

Please apply to: Mr. J.S. Newman, Partner, Roy Haywood & Baker Street, London W1M 1DA. Quoting Ref. JSN/EL/SM/120.

LIVELY GRADUATE FREE TO TRAVEL £10,000+

This famous Fashion Group are currently looking for a special person to join their training team. Travelling throughout the UK to their many stores, the successful candidate will be involved in training staff in new operating systems, so you must be well groomed, confident and possess excellent communication skills. £10,000 and a host of benefits.

01-629 1115

Job Junction, 16 Abchurch Lane, W1, One Conn.

COURIERS / REPRESENTATIVES

Required by small, upmarket travel company from end April to October 1988 in the following places:

Spanish Manor House Hotel, Galicia
Ionian Coast of Mainland Greece
Ionian Island of Lefkas, Greece

Applicants must have 'O' level English, be over 23 years of age, and have fluent Spanish or good knowledge of Greek.

Write or phone:

Cricketer Holidays,
4 The White House,
Becon Road, Crowborough,
East Sussex. TN6 1AB
Tel: Crowborough
(0892) 664242

St. Andrew's Hospital

Billing Road, Northampton NN1 5DG

Are you looking for a post with - freedom to innovate - an opportunity to work to high standards - responsibility for professional standards

St. Andrew's, an internationally renowned 340 bedded Private Psychiatric Hospital is seeking a

CATERING MANAGER

who has the ability to respond to the high standards we seek to maintain and who can demonstrate drive and enthusiasm.

Applicants must be prepared to relocate to within a 12 mile radius of the hospital. Hospital accommodation may be available.

Salary in the range of £10,000-£12,000 pa. If you would like to know more, please contact:

Mrs L.A. Elliott, Assistant Administrator on (0604) 29696 extension 224 for an informal discussion.

LETTING NEGOTIATORS

Due to recent expansion Anson & Ringland have vacancies for lettings negotiators for their Central and North London offices to join a young, ambitious team.

Success will be highly rewarded and promotion prospects are excellent.

For details:

Central/SW London contact Caroline Botting 01-727 7227

North/NW London contact Christine Harding 01-722 7101

ANSON & RINGLAND
Hogg Robinson Property Group

Technical Sales & Support

Speciality Chemicals

Attractive package + car

North West based

Chemistry is a young, rapidly expanding and highly successful company specialising in providing custom-made solutions to industrial chemical problems via a range of innovative treatment programmes.

Your prime responsibilities will be for the maintenance of customer contact across Northern England, providing technical input in the field, where required, and for expanding our sales drive, using your knowledge of the chemical industry to develop new leads and to build further upon existing business relationships.

We're really looking for a technical specialist with demonstrable sales potential. You'll be a graduate/HND level Chemist, ideally with some sales background but definitely with hands-on experience of water and process treatments in heavy industry. Resourcefulness and total commitment to the job will be essential personal attributes, allied to first-class communication skills - you'll be working at all levels from site to boardroom.

We offer a generous salary and benefits package and company car for this post which genuinely has significant career and earnings potential.

Please write, enclosing full C.V. to:

Ralph Davies, Director, Chemistry Limited,
11 Cranford Court, Hardwick Grange,
Warrington WA1 4RX.

CHEMUSOLV

A Sales Career with Sun Life of Canada. Offering an interesting and rewarding career opportunity for a motivated, self-motivated, energetic, well educated, aged 19 + 25. Positions in major Central London department stores and Oxo. Immediate start - short and long-term. Good basic plus generous commission.

Field Officer - Self Employed

CAMBRIDGESHIRE/ESSEX

The CLA is a well established organisation which represents the owners of rural land in England and Wales. It has 80 staff based in its London HQ and in the regions, serving some 44,000 members. You will work closely with the Regional Secretary and Public Relations Officer and report to the Regional Director at HQ. Your key task will be to recruit new CLA members in your area. Members range from land owning individuals or businesses to land agents and other professionals interested in the work of the Association. Candidates, preferably aged 40+, must have an appreciation of farming and country life. A knowledge of the area and some sales experience would be an advantage. As you will be working on a commission basis, self-motivation is essential. Please apply in writing for an application form to Mrs. V.E. Yates, Country Landowners Association, 63 Cherry Orchard, Coddford, Warrington, Cheshire WA12 0PW. Closing date for applications: 5 February 1988.

Country Landowners Association

DRIVER - GUIDES

Take with Britain's largest and longest established sightseeing company. Interesting, well-paid, full or part-time work for well-educated people with personality. Successful applicants should be London-based and own a four-door car. Languages an advantage.

BRITISH TOURS LTD
Tel: 01-629 5267

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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dti

GENERAL MANAGEMENT SKILLS?

Interested in part-time consultancy?

If so, we can offer you a challenging, interesting and rewarding opportunity as an Enterprise Counsellor with the Department of Trade and Industry.

DTI operates a range of subsidised consultancy services to small and medium sized firms. These services are being brought together under the Enterprise Initiative to provide an advisory service aimed at introducing "best practice standards" to enhance company performance. This service will cover quality, design, home and overseas marketing, manufacturing and business planning and, shortly, financial and information systems. Demand for these services is expected to increase rapidly.

We now seek additional Enterprise Counsellors based at regional offices located in:

• LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • BRISTOL • LEEDS
• MANCHESTER • NEWCASTLE • NOTTINGHAM

Your prime responsibility will be to conduct an initial two day Business Review which will:

- assess an individual firm's total business activity
- identify business strengths and weaknesses
- assess how the firm could benefit from a consultancy project
- identify other possible sources of help.

All independent firms or groups in manufacturing and service industry with less than 500 total employees will be eligible.

You will need to be a mature businessman/woman, possibly newly or semi-retired, with a first class track record in industry and commerce. Experience in the management of small or medium sized firms would be useful. Excellent written and oral communications skills are essential, and you should be available to work at least 80 days per annum.

You will be paid £70 per day. Travel and subsistence allowances are payable.

In the first instance, for a detailed information pack and application form, please write to our Adviser, John Smith, MSL International, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AN. OR telephone the MSL Answerphone on 01-730 7748/01-730 7584.

MSL International

NEWS OF THE WORLD

Sun

THE Sun

ADVERTISEMENT SALES EXECUTIVES

Britain's largest selling Newspapers offer exciting opportunities for a few talented Sales Executives to join a progressive team. Successful candidates will ideally have had some advertisement sales experience and must possess the qualities and initiative required to conduct business at a senior level with both clients and advertising agencies.

Our modern purpose-built offices provide a lively and competitive environment for enthusiastic, self-motivated people for whom sales achievements are a priority.

If you have the required energy and commitment we will provide the training to equip you to meet the demands of this challenging role. The rewards are an excellent starting salary, an attractive incentive scheme and 4 weeks annual holiday, increasing to 5 weeks after 2 years service.

If you are aged under 30, preferably a graduate, reside in London or within easy travelling distance, and consider that you possess the necessary qualifications and experience to sell advertising space in our titles, please write in full confidence, enclosing your C.V., to:

Christopher Berry, Advertisement Director
NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LTD
PO Box 481, 1 Virginia Street, LONDON E1 9BD

THE METENWOOD GROUP

MANAGING DIRECTOR

We are an expanding group of engineering companies based in the London area.

We require an experienced Managing Director to take over the running of a division which consists of two recently acquired companies who now share the same premises.

The division has a turnover of between £6/£7 million and employs over 150 people. One company is a world leader in the design and manufacture of Freight Handling and Air Cargo Systems and equipment. The other is a leading designer and fabricator of aluminium and steel products with a specialisation in structural applications.

Salary will not be a barrier for the right person and there will be an opportunity to participate in the growth of the Division by share ownership and profit share.

Please write, in confidence, with career details to:-

Mr N.C. Stephens
The Chairman
The Metenwood Group Ltd
Hunting House, Central Way
Feltham, Middx
TW14 0UF

£30,000+

plus car

ENGINEERING

WEST LONDON

WOULD YOU FIT INTO FINANCE?

Some people fit into it very well. Especially young people who enjoy achieving and achieving fast.

We're looking for determined men and women aged 21-40 who can make the most of all the training and back-up a successful, expanding organisation like ours can provide. We're looking for dynamic individuals to join a highly professional team providing specialist advice on all aspects of personal and business finance, including taxation, mortgages, pensions and insurance. We're looking for motivated people who can take advantage of a superb career opportunity and who have the potential to join a management team after an initial period. Now, do you think you'd fit into finance? If you do simple phone Quinton Russell on 01-734 8786.

REPRESENTATIVE IN CRETE

We are looking for someone very versatile, who is free from mid March to mid November, aged over 24, with a full driving licence, to work in Crete, Greece.

Applicants must have a friendly, outgoing personality and knowledge of Greek would be an advantage. If you fit the bill, please write to: Harward-Taylor, Meon Travel, (0730) 66561 or 01 499 1911

Residential Sales Negotiator Central London

As part of our continued expansion in the residential field, we are seeking an additional negotiator, preferably with previous experience in the Central London market, to join our highly successful Residential office in the West End.

Candidates interested in the post, please telephone either Peter Braithwaite or Michael Tims, or send a full CV to Robert Priestley, Personnel Manager.

DEBENHAM TEWSON RESIDENTIAL

International Property Advisers
42 Brook Street
London W1A 2NA

01-408 1161

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE Director of Estate Management and Building Service

Applications are invited for this post which carries responsibility for the management of the University's estates and for the maintenance and construction of its buildings. Candidates must have appropriate technical qualifications or experience. University stipends are under review and it is expected that the pensionable stipend will be £28,570 from 1 March 1988. Further information may be obtained from the Registrar, University Registry, The Old Schools, Cambridge, CB2 1TN, to whom applications including the names of three referees should be sent by 26 February 1988.



Laura Ashley Limited, International Fashion Designers, manufacturers and retailers of garments and soft furnishings, are to appoint a Production Unit Manager for the Made to Measure Curtain Factory in Newtown, Powys.

The successful candidate will assume responsibility for the management of a modern production unit producing a range of high quality blinds and curtains, for our made to measure and ready made services. Applicants should be able to offer practical management experience and evidence of achieving production efficiencies within a people-orientated environment where quality is of prime importance.

The importance of this appointment will be reflected by a competitive salary, company car, excellent working conditions and employment benefits.

Please apply in writing with full curriculum vitae to:
Jane Riddan, Personnel Department, Laura Ashley Limited,
St David's House, Newtown, Powys SY16 1RN,
quoting job reference 169. Tel: 0686 24448 Ext 4566.

ACP ADMINISTRATIVE & CLERICAL PERSONNEL LIMITED

3 London Wall Buildings,
London Wall, London EC2M 5SJ
Tel: 01-583 3388 or 01-583 3376. Telex: 60734. Fax: 01-583 3301

A secure and varied appointment within this expanding European subsidiary

ACP SALES CO-ORDINATOR - COMPUTERS

WEST LONDON £12,000-£14,000
MAINFRAME DIVISION OF A LEADING JAPANESE GROUP

We invite applications from numerate candidates of graduate calibre who have 2 years' practical experience of high value order administration for major clients and an understanding of computer hardware including peripherals, probably gained within a computer sales or similar hi-tech environment. In control of a small team and reporting to the Marketing Manager, the successful candidate will provide a broad range of sales support services for a major mainframe account. Responsibilities will include the co-ordination of orders and deliveries, import and export documentation, arranging customer visits to Japan, sales tours to Europe and co-ordinating technical questions between the Japan, USA and European offices. The ability to accurately administer this key account, anticipate potential problems and maintain close customer liaison are critical. Initial salary negotiable £12,000-£14,000 + excellent benefits package. Applications in strict confidence under reference SC032/TT to the Managing Director.

ADMINISTRATIVE & CLERICAL PERSONNEL LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS),
3, LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5SJ.
TELEPHONE: 01-583 3388 OR 01-583 3376. TELEX: 60734. FAX: 01-583 3301

RENTALS NEGOTIATOR WINKWORTH

Enthusiasm, energy and commitment is what is needed to join our fast growing lettings office. High earnings potential (basic plus commission). Sales experience preferred but not essential. Must be car owner.

Please ring Sally Cannon
01-937 8294

B.C.I. RECRUITMENT LIMITED

have available a number of exciting career opportunities throughout London and Home Counties in the following professions:

- LEGAL:** Solicitors, Legal Executives and Secretaries (Excellent partnership opportunities) Ref S.M.
- ACCOUNTANCY:** Graduate, Part Qualified, Qualified and Taxation Ref PL/CF
- SALES:** General Sales positions, ideally for experienced professionals, but also trainees, in office Equipment, photocopying, computers, stationery and insurance. Ref CK/JS
- FINANCE:** Financial Consultants, ideally with Specialist knowledge and experience in Leasing and Financial programs. Ref CF/NS

The above vacancies are a small cross-section of career opportunities available through our network of offices in London and Kent. For more information or career advice

Telephone: (0622) 691016 Daytime or (0795) 842911
Evenings and Weekends or send full C.V. to:-

B.C.I. (Recruitment) Limited
15A Gabriels Hill,
Maidstone,
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SALES EXECUTIVE - PERSONNEL

For a revolutionary computerised personnel evaluation system used in business and Government departments for the selection training and promotion of staff.

We are seeking an aggressive self-motivated individual with a successful track record in sales who will be given the opportunity to develop the UK market.

The job will include front line sales activity, sales team recruitment and to establish a UK distribution network.

Location central London with travel throughout the UK.

Salary package c£24k, company car and bonus scheme.

Interviews will be held in London on 1-3 February 1988

Send applications with CV to:

Charles Adam
Mollison House
Enfield
Middlesex EN3 7SY
Tel: 01 804 1444

RESIDENTIAL NEGOTIATOR

required for Kensington estate agency. Central London experience preferred.

REGAL ESTATES
01 603 7121

PALL MALL MONEY MANAGEMENT

A Subsidiary of the Chase De Vere (Pall Mall) group of companies.

Offers vacancies for trainee consultants. High income potential and real long-term career progression.

For full details contact Lisa Powell on:
01 930 7242

Or send C.V. to:
125 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5EA.

RUCK

LETTING NEGOTIATOR

Operating in highly successful east London area. Extensive experience in letting and self-management. Excellent track record. Excellent salary and benefits. Apply ref. 1421.

01 581 1711

JAPANESE SPK SALESMAN

£15-20,000 + commission for Far East Dept of expanding television station based in London. Extensive travel throughout Europe. Sales experience and fluency in Japanese are essential.

Carroll Executive Recruitment,
25 George Street, London W1P 6PL.
01 631 3884.

REGALIAN

CENTRAL LONDON SITE SALES REPRESENTATIVES

We are expanding our Central London operation and are looking for enthusiastic, self-motivated Sales Representatives.

You will be responsible for negotiating sales, and the efficient running and presentation of your site.

You should have Sales experience, although we will train staff with potential and must be personable and well presented.

Excellent salaries and commission for the right person.

Contact
Leslie Carter
Sales Manager
01-493 9613
for an interview

NO AGENCIES

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

News International plc

THE TIMES · NEWS OF THE WORLD · THE SUN
THE SUNDAY TIMES · TODAY

Promotions and Creative Services

The growth and success of News International's media interests, which include five major newspapers and two magazines, has been phenomenal. Part of this success is attributable to the energy, drive and dedication of our professional promotions and creative services division. Now, to take News International even further, we are seeking two talented and ambitious individuals to join this team and grow with us.

Creative Director

c£28-30k+car

Working with a highly experienced promotions back-up team you will excel at creating, developing and supervising a diverse, innovative and original flow of promotional projects for each publication. In addition to your creativity, your intellectual maturity will allow you to work directly with editors and senior executives as well as being able to effectively communicate at all other levels.

Your experience should demonstrate a working knowledge of media planning, creative briefing, account supervision, print and television production and budgeting as well as the ability to commission other creative services.

It is likely that you will currently be working within publishing, or a promotions or advertising agency, and will be the type of individual who will welcome this kind of challenge and all its implications.

Projects Manager

c£20-23k

You will be taking charge of and organising a variety of interesting promotional projects for News International newspapers and magazines. These will include competitions, events, reader premium offers, exhibitions, presentations, editorial features, and advertising sales promotions. This will require an energetic and experienced professional with a dedicated approach, a logical mind, an eye for detail, and a talent to communicate and motivate others.

Your working background will have included an all-round experience of working with, or in the following areas: media, advertising, creative, production/costing and promotions.

Both positions offer superb opportunities for personal development and growth as well as an extremely generous benefits package which will include 6 weeks holiday, BUPA, and free car parking.

If you feel the time is right to move into this dynamic environment then write, enclosing a full CV to:

Graham King, Promotions and Creative Services,
News International plc, P.O. Box 481,
Virginia Street, London, E1 9BD.

All replies will be treated in the strictest confidence.

ASSISTANT
COMPANY SECRETARY

c£22,000+ Banking Benefits

City

As a result of the continued expansion of the Banks activities, TSB England & Wales plc wishes to appoint an Assistant to the Secretary at its Lombard Street Head Office.

● The successful candidate, who should have the ability to deputise for the Secretary, will be responsible for a comprehensive range of secretarial services for the Board and Committees, as well as a number of subsidiary companies operating from Head Office.

● The position will be of particular interest to candidates, not necessarily from a banking background, who are seeking an opportunity to develop their experience in a demanding environment. Excellent oral and written communication skills are required together with the ability to gain the confidence of senior management.

● In view of the requirements of the post it is likely that the successful candidate will be either a qualified Chartered Secretary aged 30+ with a minimum of two years experience in a similar appointment, or a suitably experienced lawyer.

We offer a generous remuneration package including mortgage subsidy, BUPA, non-contributory pension scheme and other banking benefits.

In the first instance please send your cv including details of your current remuneration to: Peter Taylor, Manager - Personnel and Training, TSB England & Wales plc, Administration Centre, 100 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6AQ, to arrive not later than 4th February 1988.



BARRUS

O.E.M. DIESEL ENGINE
Sales Manager

We are a leading importer of diesel engines and i.e. engine powered equipment with annual sales exceeding £15 million. We have represented Yanmar in the UK since 1971. Yanmar are now extending their product range to include industrial air and water cooled diesel engines between 4 and 50 h.p., for sale to U.E.M. customers.

We seek the best Sales Manager with a strong sales personality, a record of success, and a self starting nature, to take charge of this new challenge. We will pay top salary for the right person.

Please write in confidence with C.V. and indication of salary required to:

Robert Bennett, Managing Director,
E.P. BARRUS LTD.
Lamton Road, Bicester,
Oxon, OX6 0UR

IGSA

The Institute of
Chartered Secretaries
and AdministratorsPROFESSIONAL SERVICES
OFFICER

IGSA the leading professional body for company secretaries and administrators seeks a senior member for its Professional Services Department.

You would have responsibility for specialist panels of members employed as company secretaries, partnership secretaries, pension administrators and those involved in European affairs.

You would generate ideas and act as Secretary for regular Panel meetings, draft policy documents and submissions and organise conferences. This is a key area for the promotion of the Institute and an interest in policy matters affecting the profession is crucial.

Applicants should be members, or final year students, of the Institute. Relevant experience in a company secretarial or commercial administration field would be an advantage. Good written and oral communications skills are essential.

Salary £12-£15,000.

Apply in writing to the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, 16 Park Crescent, London W1N 4AH, marking replies "Confidential - Professional Services Officer". Further details from Kathy Davis Tel: 01-580 4741 Ext 124. Closing date 1st February 1988.

COMMERCIAL EXECUTIVE

I J Dewhurst (Toiletries) Ltd is a subsidiary of I J Dewhurst Holdings PLC. We are a manufacturer of private label toiletries and toiletry textiles, with in house marketing and design departments. We supply most major high street retailers with a wide range of toiletry products. Our modern premises are situated near the lively and culturally active centre of Newcastle upon Tyne. To meet our expanding needs, we require an individual to join us as Commercial Executive.

The ideal candidate will be aged 25+ with 2-3 years commercial experience. Responsible to the Sales and Marketing Director, you will work in tandem with the Production Executive to ensure the growth and profitability of the company.

Your responsibilities will include day to day control and co-ordination of the design development team's activities as well as liaising at a senior level with our customers. You will be highly motivated and possess an enthusiastic and energetic personality, in order to tackle these wide responsibilities.

An excellent salary is offered, with company car, together with a relocation package and other benefits commensurate with working for a large public company.

This is a rare opportunity for an ambitious individual to join our lively, young team and be part of our continued success. Apply in confidence, enclosing a full C.V. to: Robin Horsell, Sales and Marketing Director, I J Dewhurst (Toiletries) Ltd, Kitty Brewster Estate, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 4RG

ijd

Contract Recruitment

Consultants in
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£20k+ on target earnings

Self motivated and ambitious sales people will be given every opportunity to succeed and achieve their career objectives within our Systems and Programming Division.

You will be able to demonstrate either a successful sales track record, ideally within Contract Recruitment - or possess the drive and ability necessary to succeed in this highly competitive and professional market place.

If you are aged between 25-35 and have the skills and personal qualities to succeed in our business, contact me, Lynne Lawes, immediately to discuss your future.

FRES
MEMBER

01-948 5922

ACCOUNTANT -
LONDON SW7

A small successful property services group requires an experienced personable accountant to prepare computerised management consolidated accounts.

Ability to prepare accounts to Trial Balance, capacity for hard work, good teaching skills and a lively personality are more important than formal qualifications.

Salary likely to be in the range of £12,000-£16,000.

Please contact Mike Smith on 01-651 3477 between 2.00-5.00 p.m.

JEWELLER

Richard Ogden, The Jeweller of Burlington Arcade, Piccadilly, London, seeks an efficient, charming young person to run his Wedding Ring Room.

Please telephone for an interview on 01 493 5126

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
International Oil Company

Knightsbridge

c£16,000

Our client is the subsidiary of one of the world's leading independent oil and gas companies. The London office functions as an important centre for their operations in the UK, Europe, Africa and the Middle East, giving rise to a busy and stimulating work environment.

The company wishes to recruit an experienced administrator to undertake wide ranging duties to include: assisting the Company Treasurer with cash management; the day to day operation and maintenance of the offices; staff travel and relocation requirements and supporting various accounting and staff administrative functions.

To be a candidate you must be over 25 years of age, a non smoker, numerate,

with some knowledge of legal requirements relating to companies and an effective communicator. This is a position for a self starter, who will be able to handle a demanding work load, providing a practical approach to problem solving.

The company offers an attractive salary and benefits package which includes a pension scheme, private medical insurance, luncheon vouchers and season ticket loan.

To apply please write with cv to: Stephen Cole, SMCL Oil & Gas, Recruitment Consultants, 2 Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Dartmouth Street, London SW1H 9BP or telephone 01-222 7733.



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Management Trainees

We need ambitious and career minded people to train into management positions. No set requirements with regard to experience but we do demand a strength of personality. In exchange for this we offer exceedingly high income and share participation. Applications must be well presented and aged over 21 years.

Contact S. Roberts

(Only applicants within a 30 mile radius of Watlington Close and apply)

0992 769898 Ext 206

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POWER INDUSTRY

Excellent 2 year married status contracts NW Saudi Arabia for most senior O & M positions. Candidates should be professionally qualified (preferably degree and/or Chartered engineers), and have minimum of 10 years relevant experience.

Send CV to
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81 Medfield Street, London SW15 4JY

ADVERTISING SALES

ON TARGET EARNINGS £40K p.a.

The launch of a series of major international titles has created opportunities for effective ambitious sales people. If you are able to talk to senior executives in a professional and convincing manner then we would like to talk to you.

There are likely to be early management opportunities for the most successful applicants.

In the first instance please call David Conway or Ben Crocker on 01-240 1515.

LEGAL CASHIER

W1 to c£15K

Our client, a thriving and successful young solicitor's firm urgently seek an experienced Book-keeper/Cashier to assume full control of all accounting and finance matters, at least to Trial Balance. This varied and responsible role offers excellent prospects, consistent client and partner liaison. Experience of solicitors' accounting will be an advantage but not essential.

For further information please contact Nick Meyner, the firm's recruitment advisor, on 01 242 0509/0344, or write to him at:

Selected Accounts Personnel,
Hamover House, 73/74 High Holborn,
London, WC1V 6LS.

Diagnostics
RepresentativePromote our products
and your career

Behring Diagnostics, the UK Sales and Marketing arm of one of the world's leading diagnostic reagent manufacturers, a Division of Hoechst UK Limited, wished to employ a currently successful representative to sell quality diagnostic reagents and sophisticated equipment to hospital laboratories in the South East and South West of England.

Ideally you will have a background in Life Sciences (Immunology/Biochemistry Graduate) and at least two years' experience selling diagnostic reagents/equipment and already live in the South East. More importantly, however, you will be a highly motivated self starter able to work without too much supervision, someone who is interested in being well rewarded for sales successes, through a high basic salary, Profit Sharing Scheme and Incentive Awards, in addition to generous monthly expenses and free private health insurance.

Training for this position will commence in the beautiful old West German university town of Marburg whose famous son Emil von Behring gave his name to the Company.

Why not ring Margaret Dehorne, Personnel Officer, Hoechst UK Limited on 01-570 7712 Ext.3000 and ask about it. It might turn out to be one of the most rewarding telephone calls you have ever made.

Hoechst UK Limited, Hoechst House, Salisbury Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. 01-570 7712 Ext.3000



Hoechst

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to match an equally professional company

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Areas - Kent and South East London, Central London, Middlesex, Berkshire, Essex and Cambridgeshire.

Company - As a first-class sales executive you will know that the key to your continuing success is the professionalism and support behind you. Project Office Furniture, the UK's largest manufacturer and distributor of office furniture, is the only company in its industry to offer its sales teams such a high degree of professional support, and with a turnover in excess of £40 million, our pedigree is worth examination.

Product - Top quality market leader with excellent "sellability". Demand is running at its highest level and consistent growth is forecasted. Around 70% is repeat business.

Prospects - Over 30% of our senior salesmen have been promoted into sales management roles in the last two years. Secondment to an overseas post or transfer to a marketing role are alternative career paths.

Training - An ongoing process starting from a basic 2-3 year programme for graduates, through courses in effective negotiation, interpersonal skills, presentation techniques, design briefs and management training plus the usual range of sales training courses.

If you have read this far you must be interested in us. But for us to work well together you will obviously have to be a cut above the rest. So if you know your full potential is not being realised then telephone our Personnel Department on 0440 705411 for an application form or send your cv to our Personnel Manager at the address below. We look forward to hearing from you.

Project Office Furniture plc, Hamlet Green, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 8QJ.
Telephone: Haverhill 705411.

We are an equal opportunity employer

PROJECT

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481



TELEPHONE SALES CANVASSERS

Are you bright, enthusiastic, hard working and looking for an opportunity to enter the challenging world of newspaper advertising.

Due to the expansion of our Classified Sales team, we now require telephone sales canvassers to work in our modern offices based in Pimlico, SW1.

If you are aged between 20-28 years and live in the London area, we can offer you full training, £9,000 basic plus bonus, 5 weeks holiday and BUPA medical cover.

If you think you can meet the challenge, then ring Alison Cosburn now on 01-630 1333 ext 372.

Community Relations Consultants

Posts in London

The Home Office wishes to appoint two Community Relations Consultants to contribute to its policies on race relations and equal opportunities.

The role of these consultants will be to —

- advise on a wide range of matters related to race relations and ways of tackling racial discrimination and disadvantage
- contribute to the development of management and training strategies for race relations and equal opportunities throughout the Home Office and the services for which it is responsible, participating as appropriate in training, and
- to provide links, and improve understanding, between Government and the ethnic minorities.

You must have expertise and experience in work on equal opportunities and race relations, and wide contacts. Skills in dealing with statutory authorities and an understanding of the techniques and design of race relations training will also be needed.

Appointments will be made for a period of three years in the first instance. They may be extended to five years.

Starting salary will depend on your qualifications and experience, and will be in the range £16,656-£21,815. At least one appointment will be at Grade 6 with a salary maximum of £26,860.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 12 February 1988) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468561 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref G/7462.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

HOME
OFFICE

Human Resources Consultancy

London Salary Neg + Car

Pannell Kerr Forster Associates is an expanding management consultancy company forming part of an international firm of Chartered Accountants with some 33 offices in the UK.

The human resources group forms part of the consultancy company and currently offers personnel and executive recruitment services to clients and other organisations. We are seeking to extend the range of services by appointing:

- A Pensions Consultant
- An Organisation and Employee Benefits Consultant

We seek graduates, with some commercial and consultancy experience, who have the ability to work on their own initiative in developing a market for their specialist skills, who respond to rewards being related to achievements.

Applicants should write in the first instance, in confidence, quoting reference 90549 and submitting CVs with salary details to:

Peter Childs
Pannell Kerr Forster Associates
New Garden House
78 Hutton Garden
London EC1N 8JA

Pannell Kerr
Forster
Associates
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

An exceptional opportunity

We are an expanding Recruitment and Management Consultancy based in Central London actively seeking several additional recruitment consultants of high calibre to join our existing team.

If you have a successful track record in selection or search, are self motivated with a high energy level and a determination to succeed, we offer exceptional financial rewards and unlimited scope for future development.

Preferably you should be aged 25-35 with several years of consultancy experience.

Please contact V A Quinn on 01-405 4571 during office hours or send your cv to:

A M S

Applied
Management
Services
Limited

17 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4EB
Tel: 01-405 4571

ALL BOX NO. HOLDERS
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LONDON,
E1 9DU.

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search team with proven ability
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Manager, 345-355 Regent
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Join our rapidly expanding and successful Reading team and make a name for yourself in the M40/M4/M3 corridors.

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Target earnings: £20,000 p.a. upwards, depending on experience. Plus company car, bonus, private health cover for you and your family.

Energetic, organised, with exceptional drive and enthusiasm, you'll probably be aged between 25 and 40. You'll already have a natural flair for selling print, with proven success record and nationwide contacts. Preferably (but not essentially) you will have had laser print selling knowledge.

Your job will be to sell high quality laser printing — not only for mailing letters, but for laser forms, inserts, stationery and literature of all kinds. You will be moving fast — and moving up — in Britain's fastest growing marketing sector. And for one of the most progressive and successful direct mail database and print houses in the country. We've doubled our turnover every year for the past six years.

The potential's tremendous. Your prospect's exciting. Interested? Then write today, with your CV to: Miss Marilyn Hendleman, Personnel Officer, Computer Letters Ltd., 164 Union Street, (1st. Floor), London, SE1 0LH. Or phone 01-928 2673 for an appointment.

COMPUTER LETTERS LTD
PRACTITIONERS IN DIRECT MARKETING

164 UNION STREET, LONDON SE1 0LH. TELEPHONE 01-928 2673
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Regional Manager (Resort Operations)

£17-20K + Car

Based Mids or Abroad

Horizon is firmly established as one of Britain's top three tour operators. A continued rapid rate of growth coupled with re-organisation has resulted in the creation of a group of new posts to strengthen the management team in our overseas division.

We are looking for dynamic, commercially aware individuals who have the flair to view change as opportunity. Your brief will be to create a high quality, customer service oriented environment to achieve maximum overseas profitability by working through local managers to motivate and direct resort based staff. In addition you will analyse existing conditions and ensure the cost effective application of innovative business strategies.

These are challenging, highly rewarding roles calling for a rare combination of leadership and business skills. Ideally, you'll have an exceptional track record in the travel industry — but if you've had management responsibility for a remote sales force in a service industry where customer perception is crucial, we'd like to hear from you.

For those prepared for plenty of overseas travel, who possess the drive and commitment to succeed in a highly competitive environment, the rewards are excellent. A competitive salary is enhanced by a car, private health insurance plus real career prospects in a company that is definitely going places.

Interested? Please write with full CV and details of current salary to: Mark Durkin, Personnel and Training Executive (UK), Horizon, Broadway, Edgbaston Five Ways, Birmingham, B15 1BB. Tel: 021-643 2727.

HORIZON

CHIEF DEALER FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Substantial Financial Services Group

Our client is a major and diversified financial services organisation. From its London Head Office, the Company maintains extensive international dealing operations and, following an internal promotion, it seeks to appoint a Chief Dealer to maximise its foreign exchange trading activity.

Candidates, probably aged 28-35, should possess a minimum of 4 years' active dealing experience gained ideally from within the finance or treasury division of a major multinational corporation; knowledge of the swap and cross currency markets is regarded as essential.

This senior position affords the opportunity to develop both one's trading expertise and long-term career horizons with a "household name". A competitive salary and fringe benefit package will reflect the importance attached by the Company to this appointment.

Contact Norman Philpot in confidence
on 01- 248 3812

NPA Management Services Ltd

12 Well Court, London EC4M 9DN. Telephone 01-248 3812 3 4 5

Management Consultants Executive Search

SALES EXECUTIVES — GRAPHICS

Due to the tremendous growth and success of the Graphic Paintbox, Quantel are seeking additional sales staff to be based in our Newbury offices.

The requirement is to develop current and create new contacts within the existing market area with special responsibility for the European countries. Candidates should be technically and commercially aware, preferably with professional qualifications and have previous sales experience in a high value capital goods market, not necessarily in the graphics field. However, a knowledge of the printing industry would be an advantage.

We offer a competitive salary and company car with relocation assistance available where appropriate. If you feel you have the ability and enthusiasm to succeed please write or telephone for an application form to: The Personnel Officer, Quantel Limited, 17 West Mills, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5HG. Tel: (0635) 48222.

QUANTEL

Do you speak
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Exclusive balloon vacation company requires bright, fit individuals in Europe in its 12th season. Positions include balloon ground crew, Hostesses, cooks and office staff.

Contact J K Adams
The Bonham Society
Hampton Green House
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Glas GL6 9AD

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We have been successfully manufacturing and marketing high quality fitted kitchen furniture in the UK for 23 years. To cope with our continuing growth we are seeking three additional individuals to join our sales team.

Our customers expect competent and professional service as well as a strong knowledge of products and the market place. Our representatives are backed up by modern manufacturing, quality control and delivery times. We are also embarking on an adventurous programme of new product development and new literature. A very high remuneration package is being offered to attract the most talented individuals, in addition to a package of benefits expected from a substantial company.

Please write in the first instance with full CV to Mr R C White, Sales and Marketing Director, Kingfisher Wood Products Ltd, Water Lane Industrial Estate, Storrington, West Sussex PO20 2DS.

KINGFISHER
Paula Rosa Kitchens



100-106 BATTERSEA RISE,
LONDON SW11 1EJ.
TELEPHONE 01-228 0314

ART SHOP MANAGER

Retail Management experience
essential and a knowledge of art
materials and equipment an
advantage. Age 25-40.
Salary £10,000.

Please contact: Lisa
01-228 0314

JEWELLER

Richard Ogden, The Jeweller
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Piccadilly, London, seeks an
efficient, charming young
person to run his Wedding
Ring Room.
Please telephone for an
interview on
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required for an expanding department dealing with all types of commercial property in the South East.

Applicant should preferably be within the 25-35 year range with previous experience and the ability to work with the minimum of supervision.

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Good prospects for the right candidate within a well established, independent firm.

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Tel: 01-920 9512

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Top french bra and lingerie company require a full-time consultant to sell their exclusive range in Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1. Smart appearance and sales ability essential. Benefits include:

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- Subsidised carpark;
- Store discounts.

Interested?

Phone Lejaby on 637 9331/2/3

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT £ Negotiable

We are a predominantly successful consultancy based in charming period offices in Central London. Ideally you should have had some previous experience, but we are also interested in recruits with a strong active background, who know they have the commitment necessary for a career in recruitment. Excellent basic and commission on all sales. Please contact Audrey Dicker

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Exceptional benefits
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Europe's largest employee-owned business
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A Unique Partnership

An outstanding opportunity in a unique organisation...

The National Freight Consortium is Britain's biggest and most diverse freight transport storage and distribution company, with substantial property and travel activities and rapidly expanding interests throughout the UK and overseas.

We are also a unique industrial partnership, NFC, which incorporates Piddocks, BRS and National Carriers, is Europe's largest employee-owned business. Our story has been one of extraordinary growth and continued success... proving that employee ownership and professional management is a powerful combination indeed. Motivation is woven into every fibre of the group. Commitment goes hand in hand with reward.

And commitment is certainly a quality we will look for in this new Group Accountant. Essentially, we need someone who can provide a dedicated and comprehensive management information reporting service. A young professional who can quickly gain a broad overview of our unique

organisation and confidently influence the development of financial plans and forecasts.

Clearly, this is a job that calls for an ability to work to strict deadlines, strong interpersonal skills, proven powers of communication and a manager's intuitive talent for delegation. That is why we are looking for an Accountant — probably aged under 30 — with up to 18 months' post-qualification experience and a firm grasp of company law and, of course, accounting standards. Someone with the energy and enthusiasm to go a long way either within our group accounting function or in one of our operating companies.

Our generous salary package includes a profit related bonus (worth up to 30% of salary), excellent pension scheme, relocation expenses and the chance to acquire shares in our highly successful enterprise.

If you possess the skills and commitment we ask for, now's the time to join our unique partnership.

Please write with full details of your career and qualifications to: Mrs Anne Yeomans, Personnel Manager, National Freight Consortium, The Merton Centre, 45 St Peters Street, Bedford MK40 2UB. You can phone the Personnel Dept. for an application form on (0234) 272222.

20 Accountancy Personnel
Placing Accountants First**ASSISTANT FC W1****£18,000**

This challenging key position has arisen offering variety, responsibility and an excellent career path, within this well established fast expanding property group. Your fair for computerised accounts will need to be combined with sound technical knowledge and strong communication skills. The rewards will include NCPs, subsidised lunch and profit share.
Ref: S905514 Great Castle St, Oxford Circus, W1 01-580 9186

DIRECTOR (QUALIFIED ACA) CITY**£30,000 NEGOTIABLE**

Commercial Acumen, Professionalism and proven success in a related field are the basic requirements of this acquisitive international trading company to 'start up' their new internal audit department. The successful appointee will design and implement systems, recruit their own staff and then forge ahead to grasp the unlimited prospects offered.

Ref: DD331 63/65 Moorgate, EC2 01-638 3955

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS**MILBURN RESTAURANTS
KENWOOD HOUSE
MANAGING COOK**

A brilliant cook with experience of kitchen management is needed to cook in and manage our new day time restaurant at Kenwood House in Hampstead Heath. Details please to: Susan Hardingham, Victoria and Albert Museum, The New Restaurant, London SW1 2NL.

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West End Videodata company requires experienced, independent, intelligent staff. Good basic + attractive commission.
Tel: 01-488 2471

**Recent School Leavers
Clerical/Admin. with Shell**

If you left school in 1987 and are looking for an interesting and challenging career with a major company, we have a few openings in our Central Offices at Waterloo.

You will have been educated to O or A Level standard, with a minimum of 5 academic 'O' Levels (grade C) including English Language and Mathematics.

A competitive salary is offered plus an excellent benefits package including free lunches, 5 weeks annual leave, interest free season-ticket loan and extensive sports and social facilities.

Telephone 01-934 2829/6621 for an Application Form. We welcome applications from disabled people.

**Shell****GROUP FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT**

London W1

C.£22,000 + Benefits

Our client is a long established property group which is moving through a period of rapid expansion and restructuring following a recent change in ownership. With expansion set to continue and the likelihood of a public flotation later this year the group is seeking to strengthen its financial management team by recruiting a Chartered Accountant, with recent commercial or auditing experience of property companies, to be responsible for a wide range of financial, accounting, statutory and taxation matters.

The ideal candidate will be ambitious, self-motivated and will have an ability to communicate at all levels. A good working knowledge of computerised accounting systems would be required.

Please apply in confidence with CV and daytime telephone number to:

Neil Summer, Gerald Edelman,
25 Harley Street, London W1N 2BR.

Regional Accountant

London

£16-18,000

Expanding leisure group with worldwide interests require a part-qualified accountant to take control of their European division. The successful candidate will have sound knowledge of both financial and management reporting. Controlling a team of seven, strength of personality and the ability to motivate and organise staff is essential. The position will involve some European travel. Excellent benefits and salary according to experience. Please contact Sheila Williams on 01-629 3555 or write to her at:

**Brian Ingram Associates**

70/71 New Bond Street, London W1 9DE

**UNIVERSITY OF
DURHAM
TREASURER**

The Council of the University invites applications for the post of Treasurer of the University. Founded in 1832, Durham is a Collegiate University with 5,000 F.T. students and an annual budget of £40m.

The post is full time and carries responsibility for the conduct of the University's financial business: as such it is a key management post.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University of Durham, Old Elre Hall, Durham DH1 3HP. The closing date for applications is 6th February 1988.

**ACCOUNTANT:
CENTRAL AFRICA**

Opening for qualified accountant. Based in Kinshasa, the post involves considerable managerial and regional responsibility for several origin offices of a City commodity company. African experience, practising Chartered, fluent French essential. Salary and overseas package according to age and experience. Please ring Rosie for application form on 01 626 9581

SENIOR BANKING CONSULTANT

Banking Decision Systems, a division of Data Architects Systems Ltd, is a recognised leader in providing Risk Management services to the banking industry worldwide. We are expanding our London office and are looking for a Senior Banking Consultant.

The primary requirements are for an individual who has experience in financial consulting with a bank, consulting firm, or financial services firm.

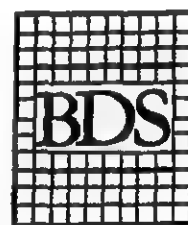
The ability to interface with senior management of financial institutions is critical, as are strong skills to support the development and implementation of an interest rate risk management system.

A degree is required, and an MBA would be a plus. As you will be working in both pre and post-sales situations, experience in sales or marketing would be a benefit.

We offer an attractive compensation package, including bonus, which will be commensurate with your experience.

Please apply in writing with full c.v. to:

Mrs Christine Luscombe, Banking Decision Systems, Quadrant House, 80-82 Regent Street, London, W1R 6QX.

**Banking Decision Systems**

A Division of Data Architects Systems Ltd.

Management Accountant

City

c.£20,000+

Deloitte Haskins + Sells, one of the largest and most successful international business advisory firms, is introducing significant changes in its management accounting systems. Developments now under way in integrated central and local computer processing of accounting data will, in particular, pave the way for a greater range of variance analysis and the use of sophisticated forecasting techniques.

A new post of Management Accountant has been created to manage the system and continue its development. Candidates for this post will be qualified accountants with at least 2 years' post-qualification experience. 'PC-literacy', managerial strengths and good communication skills are essential.

If challenge and large scope for personal contribution in a professional environment appeal to you, please write with a full CV to:

Martin Penson,
Personnel Manager,
Deloitte Haskins + Sells,
128 Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4P 4JX.
Tel: 01-248 3913.

Deloitte Haskins + Sells**INTERNATIONAL DATACOMMS SUPPORT**

U.K. Europe Middle-East Africa

Opportunities to Move into Support £17,000 — £20,000 + car + benefits

My client is one of the world's truly great communication technologists. A combination of high sales growth and profitability has led to the rapid expansion of the support group at Principal and Senior engineering levels.

By participating with major standards setting bodies and liaising closely with major customers, you will provide key inputs to new product specifications, both initially and then at major design reviews during development.

Providing technical consultation on new product introductions through evaluation and training, you will maintain a state of the art knowledge of the industry.

Possessing strong interpersonal skills, you will also liaise with the customers at all levels and provide technical direction to specific product enhancements.

If you are currently working in Design, Development, Field Service or Applications with Hardware/Software experience, and have strong interpersonal skills for which you are not being rewarded, this represents a truly great opportunity to move into international data communications support at the specialist level after having received comprehensive training.

Ideally you will have gained data communications experience in any of the following areas:

- ★ Modems (e.g. dial-up, leased line, baseband)
- ★ Multiplexors (voice/data)

- ★ Kilostream/Megastream
- ★ Fibre-optic technology

These roles offer you the opportunity to work in the UK and on an international level through major distributors. If you possess flair, enthusiasm, stamina and wish to benefit from the combination of this and your technical expertise, call now to discuss the next step in your career.

An exceptional training package will be a key feature of these exciting roles.

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HORIZONS

A guide to
career developmentThe rewards and risks of
work on the small scale

What is life like in a small firm? What opportunities are there, compared with life in a giant organization? What are the rewards, and what are the risks? These are questions which you cannot answer until you have spent some time in the environment of a small firm.

I spent two and a half years as production manager in a firm employing about 600 people; and in 15 years of consultancy, much of which has been spent specializing in small firms, I have held two full-time posts for clients. For six months I was general manager of a firm with 14 employees reprocessing waste plastics, and for two years I was production/administration director in another firm, involved in merchandizing and converting paper products, which employed 150 people.

Recent experience with some 40 or 50 small firms suggests that in small manufacturing firms there is probably one manager, technician or supervisor for every 10 employees — that is some 200,000 managerial jobs in the small firm manufacturing sector alone, out of the 5,400,000 people who work in manufacturing industry. The service sector employs some 13,700,000 (particularly in retail, hotel, catering and transport) providing at least 500,000 responsible jobs in firms employing fewer than 500 people.

Getting maximum value
from limited manpower

At a rough estimate, that makes nearly 750,000 important jobs to be filled in manufacturing and service industries alone, and yet how many young people consciously consider management in the small firm as a possible career?

An important question is one of ownership. The Bolton Report, (Report of the Committee of Inquiry on Small Firms, 1970), though quite old, is the most recent authentic and comprehensive view of small firms in the UK, and in analysing 3,500 answers, said that 85 per cent of small firms were certainly owned and controlled by one or two people, and a further 13 per cent by three, four or five people.

It is clear that personal relationships are all-important in a firm employing 200, of which 12 to 15 are active managers, and one of whom is the owner/chief executive. The transport manager is in immediate touch with the accountant, the production manager, the sales manager and the maintenance manager, and all have immediate access

To be a big fish in a
small pool can give you
the chance to make
your mark where
the ratio is only one
boss to 10 workers,
says David Sutton

to the boss. Equally important is the fact that decisions, even policy decisions, can be made and implemented quickly.

Small firms are rarely over-staffed; there is no spare manpower. As a result, small firm managers are busy — possibly too busy — but certainly never bored. Not only are they busy, they are continually engaged in making decisions of all dimensions across a wide range of activities, and with a clear view of the results.

Rewards depend entirely on the success of the firm. When times are good, there are bonuses, cars, subsidized holidays, handsome Christmas presents. When times are bad, there is little or nothing on top of a salary, which probably does not compare with the return in a large firm. Perks, on the other hand, are probably more available, like the loan of a car when your own breaks down, a maintenance man to mend a broken gutter, or the use of a lorry to pick up a load of garden top soil.

Opportunity and risk are two sides of the same coin. Unlike the big firm, salaries are not confined by a structure, and new positions can be created with comparative ease. The effective manager can expect to be well-rewarded. His less effective colleague soon discovers that there is nowhere to hide.

As a result, the small firm manager is much more aware of what is going on, and how the firm is doing, than his counterpart in the large organization. A manager in a small firm plays many parts: the works manager may have as his responsibility purchasing, planning, quality control, new building, building and machine maintenance, hiring and firing, transport, internal goods handling, industrial relations, payment systems, health and safety, training and staff records — all of which would get specialist attention in a large firm.

A similar list could be produced for the sales manager or the chief accountant. More important, a manager usually has

to implement and observe, record and account for his own decisions and the results of these decisions are soon apparent.

The small firm manager is also more aware of the relationships outside the firm. Customers, suppliers and agencies frequently make direct contact, and important customers become familiar names, even to work people.

This close contact with the job, and sense of business from the need for the successful small firm to respond promptly to all the demands made upon it. The resulting culture is one in which the immediate drives out the important.

The small firm manager is faced every day with a mass of detail to be dealt with immediately: a minor accident, a machine that will not traverse, proof of delivery needed before a debtor will pay, a price needed before an invoice can be typed. Setting priorities becomes impossible, and again, the immediate drives out the important. His constant cry is "if only I had the time to do a job properly". His greatest need is to delegate — but to whom?

Why, then, should people consider a small firm career, unless they are going to go in at the top as the owner, or chief executive? The answer must be in the involvement, the opportunities to learn about people (with only 200 of you, no

Problems involved in
delegating work

one can be ignored, and there is the chance of some of the fun which seems to have gone out of big business).

A story will illustrate my last point: the day before the annual holiday, a delivery of four pallets of goods is urgently needed by a customer. The haulage contractor rings at 3.30 pm to say his lorry has had a puncture, but that he will get someone there by 6. The big-hearted managing director sees the pallets with slings attached, waiting to be hoisted on to the transport, and says "All right, lads, away you go. I'll see to it."

When the transport arrives, it turns out to be a curtain-sided vehicle which cannot be loaded from above, and has to be loaded by fork lift truck. The managing director's experience and technique with a forklift truck is out of date, to say the least, but he does his best, and is quite proud of the results until the driver presents his sheet for signature, and says solemnly, "don't worry, chief, I'll not tell no one who loaded me; nor how long it took."

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BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

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Full-time Medical Secretary required. Non-smoker. Hours and salary negotiable. Telephone for further details on: 01-486 9272

TEMPTING TIMES

ASSISTANT to a busy, established, major Co. EOs, PA opening with partner. Excellent opportunities for own career. The role is essential, will train on computer payroll. Duties will include liaising with Island Revenue as well as other official bodies and delegating to an assistant. A friendly office and very pleasant working atmosphere. Excellent salary and benefits package. 01 937 5311.

SECRETARY - Sales working in a busy, established, major Co. EOs, PA opening with partner. Excellent opportunities for own career. The role is essential, will train on computer payroll. Duties will include liaising with Island Revenue as well as other official bodies and delegating to an assistant. A friendly office and very pleasant working atmosphere. Excellent salary and benefits package. 01 937 5311.

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FINANCIAL CONTROL- RETAIL MOTOR TRADE



NISSAN U.K. LIMITED

£12000-£23000 + Benefits

Nissan U.K. Limited is one of Britain's most successful private companies. As well as being the largest traditional car importer and the largest retail motor vehicle operation in the U.K., the company has undertaken an extensive dealership expansion programme in parallel with the completion in the U.K. of Europe's most modern car plant.

We are now, therefore, able to offer the following career opportunities for Accountants with experience of the retail motor trade.

REGIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

WEST COUNTRY (covering Plymouth, Exeter, Taunton, Torbay area)

GREATER MANCHESTER AREA

NORTH LONDON & HERTFORDSHIRE

EAST ANGLIA

SOUTH WALES

* Applications are invited from candidates suitably located to control dealership groups within these regions.

* These are senior roles, reporting to head office at Worthing and will suit individuals who can demonstrate sufficient stature and experience of the motor trade to control a number of Dealership Accountants

DEALERSHIP ACCOUNTANTS

Opportunities for Accountants exist within the above regions and at locations throughout the U.K. These posts offer Accountants the opportunity to establish and maintain the complete range of controls and procedures necessary to produce regular management information, monthly management accounts and statutory accounts at year end.

The post of Dealership Accountant is a 'hands on' role and preference will be given to those candidates able to demonstrate experience of operating to strict deadlines within a computerised environment.

Reporting to Worthing head office via the Regional Accountant, with a functional responsibility to the Dealer Principal, the Accountant will be expected to contribute strongly to the management of the dealership.

Remuneration for the above posts will be in the range of £12000-£23000, depending on size of dealership/jobs and will include the normal benefits associated with the industry. Please apply in strictest confidence, including a C.V. to:

P.F.N. Hirsch F.C.A., Financial Director,
Nissan U.K. Limited, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 3HD.

(quoting Ref. AGBT01 on the envelope and in correspondence).

Chief Accountant Consumer Finance Nottingham

c.£18,000 p.a. + car + excellent benefits

RIGP Finance is a division of Lloyds Bowmaker, the financial services subsidiary of Lloyds Bank plc. RIGP's business is consumer finance, traditionally for motor cycles but increasingly for a wide range of consumer durables and household goods.

RIGP's head office is based in Nottingham and we are looking for a Chief Accountant. Reporting to the Finance Director, the Chief Accountant is responsible for the production of accounts and the management of the Accounts Department of around 20 employees. The division has some exciting business plans and the job holder will play a key role in the development of these.

Applicants should be qualified accountants, probably aged late 20's to mid 30's with an excellent work record, preferably but not essentially in consumer finance. They should have experience in the management of people, commercial awareness, a desire to innovate and the resilience to work effectively under pressure.

This is an excellent career opportunity with a major Financial Services group in an expanding market sector.

Salary is negotiable for the right person and benefits include a car, private health insurance, subsidised mortgage and profit sharing bonus. Relocation assistance will be provided if necessary.

Applicants should telephone for an application form or send in full CV including salary details to: John Lockett, Group Management Development & Training Manager, Lloyds Bowmaker, 9-13 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9FB. Tel: 01-491 3236 ext. 284.



LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

WOODFORDS

Require PA/Legal Assistant

For Partner in SW6 to deal with a rapidly expanding workload. Salary £17,500 and twice yearly bonus plus 4 weeks holiday. Ability to work on own initiative plus personality to cope with close client contact is essential. Must have sound conveyancing experience and preferably some knowledge of litigation. Work includes use of word processor.

Please telephone on:

01 731 0750

and ask for Pauline

(no agencies)

FIRST CLASS SEC

Require by expanding firm of Solicitors in SW6 a full PA role. Excellent opportunity for Legal Secretary requiring a more challenging role. W/S skills on W/P. Ring 01 637 8777 Mary Goring, Sec. Com.

PART TIME VACANCIES

LEGAL PA c.£12,000. Job for a young, energetic, enthusiastic person with a full PA role. Excellent opportunity for Legal Secretary requiring a more challenging role. W/S skills on W/P. Ring 01 637 8777 Mary Goring, Sec. Com.

RECEPTIONIST

Part-time - 2½ days per week

Vitra, a leading international furniture company based in Mayfair require a part-time receptionist. Applicants must have an attractive personality and enjoy doing a variety of work in a friendly, show-room environment. Accurate typing and good telephone manner are essential.

Please apply to: Janine Barton, VITRA (UK) LTD, 13 Grosvenor St, London W1K 3JF. Telephone 01 408 1122



CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

TOP FLIGHT SECRETARIES

SECRETARY - OIL COMPANY SW1

Seeking smart well spoken secretary to work for Manager, Busy department, leading to rapid promotion in this highly progressive Company. £10,500 (part time). Ring Claire Burrell on 734 8845 or send CV to 180 Wandor Street, W1.

DUTCH MEDIA

Sec/Assistant with Dutch, German and prof French for young dynamic boss of Media Co. Good typing etc. £11,000.

LANGUAGE RECRUITMENT SERVICES LTD.

387 7622

ART GALLERY W1

Requires Secretary/Researcher with good knowledge of French.

Salary neg.

Tel: 01 629 0602

PR SECRETARY

required for young, expanding PR consultancy.

We are looking for someone with a strong and professional attitude and a sense of humour who is able to work under pressure in a fast-moving environment as an essential part of a team.

In return, we can offer interesting and varied work with plenty of involvement working for a friendly company in the West End.

The ideal candidate will probably be 21-30, 18/2nd jobber, have fast, accurate typing and word processing experience. Shortlisting is not required.

Please apply with C.V. to: Penny Van Woode, Carzon Public Relations, 8 Derby Street, LONDON W1V 7HD

BILINGUAL SEC FOR FRENCH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

To organise our Functions (lunches, seminars, etc). Must be good organiser able to take responsibility and act on own initiative. Salary: AAE

Applications with cv to: Mrs F. Johnson, French Chamber of Commerce, Regent Street, 157 Regent Street, London W1A 1AB

ARCHITECTS W1 Bright, busy, new partnership that's doing well. 2 young directors looking for a secretary who will be a part of the team. Good salary and benefits. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

AUDIO Secretary £11,500. Division of a leading firm of architects. Good salary and benefits. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Medical Secretary/Assistant. 21-30, good salary and benefits. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

CHANGING PA to rapidly changing firm of architects. Good salary and benefits. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

GERMAN Sec PA/Sec. £12,000. For Manager of City Bank. Must have English to 1st standard and good typing skills. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

POSTMODERN Sec PA/Sec. £12,000. For Manager of City Bank. Must have English to 1st standard and good typing skills. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

SECRETARY with excellent typing skills. Good salary and benefits. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

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SECRETARY with excellent typing skills. Good salary and benefits. Call: Catherine on 01-240 3811. Elizabeth Hunt Sec. Com.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

£18,000

Our Client is a major law firm based near St. Pauls. They require an experienced Legal/Commercial Secretary who has experience working at Executive level to work for their Senior Partner.

Please submit your details to: LPS (Legal Personnel Specialists), Ludgate House, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4 2AR.

or call 01 583 9364

previous applicants need not re-apply

MAYFAIR SOLICITORS

CONVEYANCING SECRETARY/PA

Required for principal in small friendly modern busy office.

Ring Mr Marks

01 493 3232

01 493 3232

01 493 3232

01 493 3232

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

ARE YOU A MATCH FOR THIS FAST-PACED CITY FIRM?

As PA to a Director at this highly successful company involved in international finance, you will thrive in a fast-moving "team" environment. Confident and well-spoken, your responsibilities include organising diary and travel details. Your ability to meet important deadlines is invaluable, as are accuracy and discretion. Equipped with 100 w.p.m. shorthand, plus

exceptional keyboard skills, you will enjoy maximum opportunity to utilise your experience. Aged 24 to 35, flexibility in your working hours will be recognised and rewarded with a salary of c.£14,000 together with a subsidised mortgage, medical insurance plus generous bonus. Telephone 01-606 1611; 3-6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

WINE - WEST LONDON Highly Competitive Salary

Chairman and founder of successful and growing wine company need Secretary/Personal Assistant to organise his hectic life. Your enthusiasm, flexibility and flair for communicating at all levels will be fully utilised as you liaise with clients and suppliers in this country and abroad, become involved with printers and advertisers, ensure the smooth running of his office and provide full secretarial backup including correspondence, reports and some figure work. Good secretarial skills (60/100 shorthand useful but not essential), together with initiative and an unflappable approach and the ability to think ahead essential to make the most of this exciting opportunity. Good French and Italian essential. Age 28+. Pleasant offices in NW10. Please call 434 4512.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CAPITALISE ON A CHALLENGING VARIED ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE

This is an excellent opportunity to become actively involved in a small fast-growing firm engaged in new business venture projects. Quick thinking, capable and self-motivated, you will act as focal point for the young team of Directors. Working in smart new offices near the City you will initially be relied on to establish an efficient administrative system. Additional

responsibilities include general day-to-day coordination, data gathering, tasks involving a variety of computerised systems (training is available), as well as occasional typing.

A personable, practical nature coupled with the ability to keep pace will merit you a salary of c.£15,000. Telephone 01-606 1611; 3-6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

The John Lewis Partnership

Part-time Secretary

In the office of the Chairman of the John Lewis Partnership

We welcome applications from candidates aged between 30 and 50 who have top quality shorthand and high typing speeds, a good command of the English language and a wide vocabulary, relevant experience and a mature, confident manner. Additional qualities would include the normal office routines of dictation, typing, telephoning, filing and making appointments, and assisting the full-time secretary. There is no entertaining or travelling involved. The typewriter used is an IBM 6770. The work is particularly interesting because it gives a wide insight into one of the leading food and department store retailers.

The days of work are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. and there is a requirement to work a full week during some eleven weeks of the year to cover holidays.

The successful candidate will initially work on Oxford Street but our offices will be relocating to Victoria during 1988.

Salary: £8.30 - £7.00 an hour.

Staff benefits include four weeks' holiday (five weeks after three years' service), subsidised dining room and shopping discount in our department stores and Waitrose supermarkets. The John Lewis Partnership is a Company owned by those who work in it. This means you will benefit from the best profit sharing scheme in the country. Every year, after provision for future development, the whole of the profit is shared among those who work in the business.

Please write or telephone for an application form to: Miss H M Reynolds, Staff Manager Central, 10 Clippstone Street, London W1A 3DF. Telephone 01-837 3434 extension 5783/4.

The John Lewis Partnership

CUSTOMER RELATIONS EXECUTIVE

£10,000 + car

Highly successful company situated in residential Slough offers a rare opportunity to a person who is mobile and free from commitment. You will provide a service to customers throughout the U.K. so a clean driving licence is absolutely essential.

You will be a confident communicator aged 25+, well groomed with a positive but friendly personality and have the ability to liaise with top management. If you are currently working within a retail environment, preferably fashion, then this is the chance you have been waiting for.

For more details, telephone or write with full C.V. to Angela Squires, Senelco Limited, Dorney House, Upton Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 2AD. Tel: Slough (0753) 37722.

SENELCO

SENIOR SECRETARY OIL COMPANY IN MAYFAIR

This fast moving and expanding company are looking for an enthusiastic Secretary/P.A. for the Legal Adviser. Good typing, W.P. and shorthand skills are required plus a sense of humour.

Attractive salary plus a full benefit package. Send C.V. or call Richard Ottaway at:

COASTAL EXETER PETROLEUM (UK) LIMITED
34 Grosvenor Street
London W1 9PG.
01 406 1789

HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN & ST. ELIZABETH

Charity Office Administrator

£10,000-£12,000

To work with a small team consisting of a Director and a Clerical Assistant. The position will involve organising the processing of charitable income and to assist the administering a large projected appeal for the planned Hospital development.

This is a 100 bedded independent hospital with a strong commitment to its 10 bedded charitable Macmillan Hospice, where patients are treated completely free of charge and without State support, therefore relying on its many donors and subscribers.

Applicants should have had a good secretarial/administrative background. Ideally to have been involved in charity appeals.

Please apply by telephoning
Bridget Maher, Personnel Manager,
on 286 5125

or writing to the above address

ACCOUNT EXEC PROSPECTS £11K

If you are a graduate with excellent secretarial skills the assured prospects you are looking for, are at your fingertips assisting the M.D. of this sophisticated design consultancy. With good SH/typing - 25 years experience phone Monica, 486-8851.

WP IN DESIGN £11,000

NO AUDIO, NO SHORTHAND
This is definitely not a "glued to the screen" job. This young design company offers the perfect place to further your career. You will organise presentations, copyboards and work as part of a lively team of designers on various international projects with your sound WP skills (X training given). Phone Monica, Wesschewer, 486-8851.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
01-486 6951

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

has an immediate vacancy for a

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

(Shorthand and Audio) c.£8,500 + (Subject to review)

We are looking for someone with at least a year's experience to join a small friendly office and provide secretarial assistance for two of the College Officers and the Conference Secretary.

Good communication skills and a pleasant telephone manner are essential.

4 Weeks Holiday, Free 3 Course Lunches

Attractive Offices overlooking Regents Park. 3 minutes walk from Great Portland Street and Regents Park underground stations. Salaries subject to annual and cost of living reviews according to age and experience.

Please write immediately with C.V. or telephone Miss F Khan for an application form: RCP, 11 St Andrews Place, Regents Park, London NW1 4LE. Tel: 935 1174.

INTERESTED IN PEOPLE? Secretary/PA

for prestigious recruitment agency specialising in professional property personnel. Fast accurate typing, good spelling and knowledge of word processor a must. Good telephone manner and self presentation + a genuine interest in people and own career. Salary negotiable from £10,000 upwards, age 23-33. Super offices and friendly environment.

Call Patricia Kerr
405 6852 day or 602 2928 eves.

TOP FLIGHT SECRETARIES TOP FLIGHT TEMPORARIES

Join our team of senior secretaries for those special assignments. Long-term, short-term, and day rates and also many opportunities to help with a view to a permanent job at the end of the day.

TOP RATES PAID FOR TOP FLIGHT SECRETARIES
Please ring Angela Gordon on 734 8844/5 or send CV to 100 Wandour Street, W1.

SHARP END

15K + Benefits

A young dynamic man board director in a leading city company is looking for an executive secretary. The director is responsible for a fast moving division comprising a team of international sales and marketing. At the sharp end of the business, you will be helping plan, organise, coordinate and present to clients, and gather information on anything from international oil exploration to high finance deals. You will enjoy responsibility and involvement have lots of energy and curiosity have an eye for detail. You will be somebody your boss will be happy to delegate to and will enjoy taking charge when he is out of the country.

Age: 25-30 Skills: 100/60
City Office
600 0286
ANGELA MORTIMER

MAYFAIR

Holland & Holland,

exclusive gunmaker and field sports outfitters, require well spoken experienced SH/audio secretary for gunroom. Interest in field sports advantageous. Good overall involvement. Salary a.s.a. Hours 9.00 - 5.30
Telephone: 01 489 4411
extn 224

SECRETARY

required by

Concert Promoter in Hampstead.
Please apply with
ref to:
BOX G17.

SECRETARY/ADMIN ASSISTANT

Required by City reinsurance company to work for the financial controller and company secretary. Excellent secretarial skills (shorthand, typing and IBM word processing) required plus a proven track record in administrative skills. Legal experience would be an advantage.

In return for these skills and an enthusiastic and flexible approach we offer an excellent salary package including non-contributory pension scheme, LV's and bonus.

Please contact:

Denise Ray
Personnel Officer
NRG LONDON REINSURANCE COMPANY LTD
Fountain House
130 Fenchurch Street,
London EC3P 3BD
Telephone: 01 625 3851
(No Agencies)

MULLED WINE AND A WARM WELCOME

Come in from the cold, enjoy fine refreshments and food for thought on your career options in the Communications Industry.

Our extensive client portfolio specialises in secretarial support roles within Advertising, P.R., Publishing and Marketing. We'll be available for professional advice and internal discussion until 7.30 pm this Thursday January 21st.

Why not call us and make an appointment? You'll be impressed by more than our hospitality.

JOAN TREE
IN COVENT GARDEN
39 FLORAL STREET WC2
01-319 3315
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PORTMAN

RECRUITMENT (WEST END)

EXECUTIVE PA £14,000 + BENEFITS

The Managing Partner of this well established leading Chartered Accountants requires an efficient Personal Assistant. In this complete support role he seeks a mature person with proven organisational and secretarial skills preferably from a large firm background. Superior presentation and speech are essential and applicants must be prepared to take responsibility for a busy office when the need arises. The position offers excellent rewards and good career to well motivated and well trained senior secretaries. Age 30 +.

ONE STEP DOWN £12,000

A similar position has arisen within the same company at a slightly lower level. This brand new post also demands a high calibre of individual who would enjoy getting involved in the setting up of new systems as well as providing daily secretarial assistance to two top managers.

For details call Allison Brown or Carla Anderson

Portman put care into careers
01-494 2586
Portman Recruitment Consultants

Judy Farquharson Limited

47 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9HA.

01-493 8824

GARDEN DESIGNERS - SW1

to £14,000

First class PA to organise the MD of this small company and run lovely office. Must be prepared to work alone sometimes. Literate, well-presented, car driver and non-smoker. Typing 60wpm, WP. Age 25-35

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS

We have an interesting and varied list of clients who need temporary staff. If you have excellent secretarial skills (typing at least 50wpm and, preferably, good shorthand) and are of A level or graduate calibre, we would be pleased to help you.

Contact Deborah Forman on 483-8821

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA to MD

c.£11,000 - Interiors

Our clients have enjoyed explosive growth over the past three years in the world of Interior Design. They command an impressive client portfolio and their reputation is founded upon a real commitment to excellence. As PA to the Managing Director your duties will be diverse, spanning office administration; management of other secretarial staff; client entertainment and supervision of the car fleet! If you want challenge and variety and possess sound secretarial skills including WP please call 01-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants
to the Communications Industry
THE WORK SHOP

PA/SECRETARY TO FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

SALARY £10,000 TO £11,500

Based at Centre Point, London we are seeking an experienced PA/Secretary who has good typing skills, pleasant telephone manner and smart appearance. WP experience would be an advantage but training will be given.

Please apply including full C.V. to:

Stephen Exames
Financial Services Manager
NATIONWIDE ANGLO
ESTATE AGENTS
Floor 29
Centre Point
103 New Oxford Street
London WC1A 1RB

CONFERENCES SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

Required by the Information Resource Centre to help run their new expanded programme of training courses for the computer industry in 1988. We are looking for a capable person with sound keyboard skills and excellent organisational ability who will ensure the smooth running of our seminars and conferences. Salary £8,900 + benefits depending on experience.

For further details contact Kate Ellis on
01 871 2546

The Information Resource Centre,
2 The Chapel,
Royal Victoria Patriotic Building,
Fitzhugh Grove,
London SW18 3SX.

PA/SECRETARY TO FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

SALARY £10,000 TO £11,500

Based at Centre Point, London we are seeking an experienced PA/Secretary who has good typing skills, pleasant telephone manner and smart appearance. WP experience would be an advantage but training will be given.

Please apply including full C.V. to:

Stephen Exames
Financial Services Manager
NATIONWIDE ANGLO
ESTATE AGENTS
Floor 29
Centre Point
103 New Oxford Street
London WC1A 1RB

SHORTHAND SECRETARY/PA

Required for dynamic Property Executive for small office in the West End. Plenty of involvement good salary according to age and experience.

Please send C.V.'s to

Margaret Barnes, RH Newman,
45 Welbeck Street,
London, W1M 7HF.
Telephone 01 486 7301
No Agencies

WEST END THEATRE PRODUCTION COMPANY

require

AN EXPERIENCED AND FULLY SKILLED SECRETARY

Preferably 25+. Salary to be confirmed.

Apply in writing with C.V. by January 29th to:

Claire Harrap,
2 Russell Chambers,
Covent Garden, London WC2E 8AA.
(no agencies)

PROPERTY CO.

£11,000 + car

Assistant required for lively property company. Small friendly office in Fulham. Help Directors and liaise with tenants. Must have A level, WP and organisational skills.

Previous property management experience preferable. Immediate start.

Telephone: 01 731 1303

TOP FLIGHT SECRETARIES

CAREER MINDED PA SW18 - £14,000

High flying opportunity for secretary with shorthand. Demanding and involved position. Age 30/45.

Please ring Carol White on 947 0318 or 679 3180 or send CV to 25 The Broadway, Wembley SW19 1BE.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

TRAVEL AND LEISURE MARKETING

£10,500

He's Commercial Director responsible for the marketing to airlines. House etc on behalf of the large travel company. An absorbing position offering plenty of involvement whilst utilising your shorthand secretarial experience.

Call Jackie Mills on 01-623 1225

Be seen with the right company

ADNR
MEMBER OF FRES

TIMELY

£15,000

The senior director in charge of Churny Funds for a well-established firm of investment Managers is looking for a highly professional secretary.

All-round involvement will come from utilising your infinite common sense and good secretarial skills in handling the many telephone queries and handling the constant updating of client portfolios.

A maximum of organising, you will also find yourself juggling conflicting commitments ensuring that the time is utilised to the optimum.

This is an interesting opportunity for someone who enjoys using their initiative in an exciting and up to the minute environment.

Age: 25-35 Skills: 90/60

City Office
726 8491

ANGELA MORTIMER

SECRETARY/PA

to join Property Group in their Chelsea office, working for the Chairman and another Director. Good secretarial skills are essential. In addition to being responsible and hardworking, you should have a pleasant telephone manner and the ability to communicate at all levels.

An excellent salary and benefits offered.

Please write with C.V., giving daytime telephone number, to Lynette.

PKL Group Ltd,
Ryman House,
58 Markham Street, London SW3 3NR.
Tel: 01-352 8111.

select ADMIN SECRETARY

£11,000 + BENEFITS + SPORTS CLUB

The prestigious West End property company requires an administrative secretary who will be responsible for the smooth running of the department and offers plenty of variety, including lots of client contact. Excellent benefits.

01 837 3822
SELECT APPOINTMENTS
PLC
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AUDIO SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

with WP experience for busy London office. The position must have a good telephone manner and the necessary confidence and initiative for the important confidential work. Telephone 221 8838

The Property Managers
01-221 8838

EXCITING AUDIO SEC/PA POSITION

c.£10,000pa

To work for 2 partners of expanding property consultants' new central office close to the City. 20+ good telephone manner, WP experience, bubbly personality. Good typing speeds, common sense and willingness which will be duly rewarded. Apply Perry on 836 5571.

No Agencies

TOP FLIGHT SECRETARIES

Personality secretary required for dynamic MD in Knightsbridge SW1.

Salary £12,500.

Please ring Claire Barrett on 734 8844/5 or send CV to 100 Wandour Street, W1.

WEST END ADVERTISING AGENCY

Senior Secretary/PA to two Directors

c.£10,500

The right person will have:

- Intelligence
- Meticulous attention to detail
- Literacy and the ability to spell
- A sense of humour especially under pressure
- The wish to be a member of a team
- Good all round secretarial skills including SH/100

We are a small but dynamic office.
Telephone Frances on 01-486 6501

SNOOKER: MATCHROOM TEAM IS STRENGTHENED BY LATEST ACQUISITION

Thorburn adds his name to Hearn's cast of players

By Steve Acton

Cliff Thorburn helped tighten Barry Hearn's unassailable management monopoly on the game's leading players yesterday by officially joining the Matchroom team, thus stretching its membership to eight.

Hearn's other seven players, Steve Davis, the world champion and world No. 1, second ranked Jimmy White, Neil Foulds, the No. 3, Dennis Taylor, Terry Griffiths, Willie Thorne, and Tony Meo, voted unanimously to admit Thorburn, of Canada, the world ranked No. 4, into their ranks, Hearn said. Thorburn parted company with his previous manager, Robert Windsor in November.

Hearn, the ebullient millionaire from Romford has been severely criticised in the past for recruiting so many of snooker's leading lights into his privileged fold but was unrepentant yesterday after announcing his capture of Thorburn saying "To those who cry 'monopoly' I cry 'quite right'."

"My job is to maintain the Matchroom as the No. 1 snooker organisation in the world and signing Cliff will help me to maintain that position. I'm only interested in winners and in spreading the name of Matchroom around the world."

"We now have eight players which just happens to be a perfect number for tournaments but that doesn't



Welcome aboard: Thorburn, Davis and Hearn yesterday (Photograph: Mark Pepper)

mean we won't be strengthening our team in the future - we are No. 1 in snooker and would always add new players if the right men became available."

Davis also welcomed his new stablemate saying "Cliff has always been one of the hardest men to beat, he just never seems to give up. It is a pleasure to have him on board."

Thorburn, who celebrated his 40th birthday last Sat-

urday, and who lives in North London with his wife Barbara and two young sons, said: "Barbara will have an easier time now and can enjoy life more because we can leave everything to Barry while I just get on with my snooker."

"I like Barry's style. I've been an admirer of his for five years or so but before now it just never seemed to work out that I could be with him. Now that I can I know I'll never want to be managed by anyone else. This is the fulfilment

of my career as far as management is concerned."

Hearn also yesterday announced an ambitious new project, an 81-apartment timeshare Matchroom country club at Mijas, on Spain's Costa del Sol.

The first units will be open next summer but the £15 million development already has two 18-hole golf courses and there will also be a strong emphasis on tennis, snooker and other sports.

FISHING

Rents on salmon beats rise

By Conrad Voss Bark

Rents for salmon fishing in Scotland are going up again as a result of the fact that there is no shortage of takers. For some prime waters, there is a four-page waiting list of those who want to rent the fishing. Some have been waiting years. "It's a matter of dead men's shoes to get a rod on any good water," Jamie Livingston, the chief letting agent of Strutt and Parker, said.

The best of all these beats - the Junction Pool, where Turlach meets Tweed - is priced at £8,000 for a week for six rods in the best months, October and November. Like all salmon fishing it is, and must remain, a

gamble. Last year, six rods took £8 salmon in one week, nobody caught anything the following week, but in the week after, the next group caught 93. Everyone takes that sort of thing philosophically, they have to.

For the spring fishing this year, four to six rods can get a fine beat on the Tweed for £2,500 and at the end of March, six rods can fish the Tay for £1,000 or four rods at £1,500 on the Dee. That is the general picture. To stand a reasonable chance of a fish the very minimum individual payment would be around £250 to £300 a week. There is cheaper fishing, but the best way to get it is to live in Scotland and join a club. They

have waiting lists too. Omitted last week was the total rod-and-line catch of salmon and grilse in Scotland in 1986 - the last year when returns were available. They came to just over 75,000 fish, which was slightly less than in 1985. There was little change really, except that the netizens did a good deal better than in the previous year, because, some people say, they work harder and longer.

For more details consult the statistical bulletins of the Scottish Fishery Department, which can be obtained for 75 pence from the Scottish Office Library, New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh.

YACHTING

Curtis pays for misreading the wind shift

Sydney - The Etchells 22 world championship will be decided on Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club's offshore course here today between the American, Dave Curtis, and two Australian skippers, John Savage and Phil Thompson (Bob Ross writes). After five races they are separated by only 9.2 points.

Curtis, who went into yesterday's race with a 13.3-point lead, looked set to win the championship without having to start tomorrow when he was a close third around the first leeward mark. But he misread the wind shift pattern, losing five places.

For 'British' read English

From Mr John Lawson
Sir, Your correspondent, Barry Pickthall, is wide of the mark in criticising safety aspects in the Carlsberg Transatlantic Race 1988. The Argos System was introduced by the Royal Western Yacht Club for these races entirely in response to media pressure for positional information of competitors. There was, before the COSPAS/SARSAT system became operational, a useful safety spin-off from Argos whereby the competitor could choose to alert Argos Command by pressing an emergency button.

Up-to-date positional information also reduced the area to be searched if an Argos beacon stopped transmitting. This latter eventuality does not, however, indicate an immediate and positive emergency, such as sinking, capsizing, beacon failure, accident or damage produce the same symptom.

Speed is all-important to save life at sea. Survival time in the sea in the North Atlantic in June is unlikely to be more than three hours. The COSPAS/SARSAT System has developed since 1982 - the United States is very much part of the operation together with Canada, France, the Soviet Union, United Kingdom and other countries - and the position of any distress beacon (EPIRB) transmitting can be fixed immediately and

in 1984-85. They are:
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Preston NE 1989-97
Everton 1989-97
Leeds 1989-97
Sunderland 1989-97
West Bromwich 1989-97
Wolverhampton 1989-97
Tottenham 1989-97
Manchester Utd 1989-97
Sheff Wed 1989-97
Sunderland 1989-97
Aston Villa 1989-97
Aston Villa's and Preston's achievements are even more remarkable when you consider that in those seasons they played only 30 and 22 games respectively.

Yours faithfully,
IAN JORDAN,
Fairlawn,
Wolverhampton Road,
Banwell,
Weston-Super-Mare, Avon.

From Mr John Stern
Sir, Following an incident in the recent televised match between Everton and Nottingham Forest, it seems to me that the advantage law in football is too rigid at the moment and can cause antagonism between players and referees.

At present the referee has to make up his mind immediately whether to award a free kick or to play the advantage. He is not at liberty, as a Rugby Union official is, to wait to see if any advantage will be gained following an infringement and, if not, call the play back to award a free kick. This system does deprive the referee of the ability to make the play back to award a free kick.

Surely the situation in rugby is far more satisfactory and should be implemented by football's administrators. Yours faithfully,
JOHN STERN,
5 Albert Terrace, Mews, NW1.

From Mr Rob Wilson
Sir, Conrad Voss Bark's excellent article (January 14) on the problems of fishing in icy conditions will fall on very fertile ground here, as far as I am aware. For the problem in the far north, which to date has had the finest non-winter on record, is not one of cold but exactly the opposite.

Warm, clear water in December will have encouraged early fish to run fast and far and many of the Helmsdale shillies are convinced that fish are already over the Kilidonan falls. Yours sincerely,
ROB WILSON,
Fountain Square,
Brae, Shetland.

SPORTS LETTERS

System ensuring safety at sea

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Less power to the whip arm

From Mr Campbell Lennie
Sir, In an era which frowns on corporal punishment, I wonder if the racing authorities could perhaps do a little more to extend the general beneficence to the horses under their protection. Horse racing is now a televised sport viewed by millions, and many must be disgusted by the frequent sight of horses being put under the whip when they clearly have no more to give, of tails pumping in pain with each cut of the whip and of jockeys discreetly trying to smooth away the worst of the whiplash before entering the winner's enclosure.

The same jockeys are, of course, placed in an invidious position, have to please not only the owner and trainer and the purely monetary interests of the bookies, but also the vast army of spectators, most of whom, for obvious reasons, would forgive the use of Mexican spurs and an electric goad if these helped to bring home their 10-1 shot in the first place.

I can appreciate the occasional necessity of the whip to squeeze an animal out of a tricky situation or to help a tired horse over a fence. Whip-waving is a time-honoured horseman's device and the odd tap at an obtuse angle to the body may be acceptable, but the all-too-frequent sight of jockeys carrying their whip-arm out to its full extent and bringing it in again with all the force they can muster, really proves that the "excessive use" ruling is badly in need of a new set of teeth.

Towards the end of each season we are treated to the somewhat meaningless brouhaha surrounding the race for the jockey's championship. If the authorities began to adopt a more watchful, humane and genuinely protective attitude, we might then see more of the laurels worn by the jockeys least inclined to confuse the art of riding horses with the art of beating carpets.

Yours,
CAMPBELL LENNIE,
11 Clarence St,
Edinburgh 3,
January 12.

competitor would lose a full point and, of course, any chance for a medal. Fair enough, the same thing happens in ski jumping, in sprinting, etc. when one mistake eliminates the unfortunate competitor.

Of the three competitors, only the Polish skater did not fall, and presented a very good programme. He outpointed the German, but all three Russians won all three medals. We will always see the same faces when we see the Soviet bloc.

We are only several days away from the Olympic Games. Will the Western countries tolerate these manipulations once again? Yours faithfully,
JOHN CARLINISKI,
94 Ramblers Road, W4.

JUDGING ON TRIAL

From Mr Josef Garthold
Sir, I wish to refer to the European ice skating championships in Prague. A Polish judge twice gave the French dance pair a full point less than the Soviet pair and later tried to explain that it was a computer fault or that she had a mental block. Rubbish! She was just trying to ruin the French pair's chances because their very original programme was dangerous to the Soviets.

There was a similar scandalous result in the men's programme. Five skaters had a chance for a medal: three Russians, a German and a Pole. The rules have been recently signed up and the judges were informed that for a full the

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report January 21 1988

Chancery Division

Immunity for police reports to DPP

Evans v Chief Constable of Surrey

Before Mr Justice Wood

[Judgment January 20]

Public interest immunity attached to reports sent from the police to the Director of Public Prosecutions. It was important for the proper functioning of the criminal process of prosecution that there should be freedom of communication between police forces and the DPP. Police officers should be able to seek the legal advice of the DPP without any fear that a report from them would be subject to inspection, analysis, and investigation in civil proceedings.

Mr Justice Wood, sitting as an additional judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated in a judgment in open court after a hearing in chambers.

The plaintiff, Mr David Evans, of Guildford, in an action claiming damages and exemplary damages for wrongful arrest and unlawful imprisonment, sought disclosure of a police report dated December 11, 1984, from the defendant, the Chief Constable of Surrey, to the DPP.

In interlocutory proceedings, Master Prebble made an order that the report be disclosed to the plaintiff. The chief constable appealed.

Mr Jeremy P. Maurice for Mr Evans; Mr Maria Russell for the chief constable. Mr John Laws for the Attorney General, as intervenor.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said that the plaintiff sued the defendant for damages and exemplary damages for wrongful arrest and false imprisonment from 3pm on September 2, 1984 to about 3.30pm on September 5, 1984 and from about 8.30am on October 19 to about 3.30pm on

October 20 of the same year. The claim arose from the discovery of a woman's body in the car park adjoining London Road Railway Station at Guildford. She had been murdered and was a friend of the plaintiff.

The police interviewed the plaintiff on more than one occasion. The plaintiff was arrested on September 2, 1984 and released on September 5; arrested again on October 19 and released on October 20.

The plaintiff remained under suspicion and on December 11, 1984 the defendant submitted to the DPP a bundle of statements from potential witnesses and a covering report seeking legal advice. On March 25, 1985, the DPP advised and authorized the defendant to charge the plaintiff with the murder. It was clear that in the DPP's opinion there was a *prima facie* case.

The next day Stephen Doyle was arrested in Essex for a rape offence, admitted to the murder of the woman at Guildford and was convicted of that murder on January 30, 1986.

The plaintiff was never charged. At the damages trial it would be for the defendant to prove on the balance of probabilities that the arresting officers had reasonable cause for suspecting the plaintiff of the murder.

In the proceedings the plaintiff would receive all the statements of the potential witnesses. He sought the disclosure and production of the police report to the DPP on December 11, but not the advice which was given as a result.

Master Prebble had ordered the disclosure and the defendant appealed from that order. The defendant claimed public interest immunity.

His Lordship had considered *Conway v Rimmer* (1968) AC 910; *R v DPP* (1978) AC 171; *Burmah Oil Co Ltd v Governor and Company of the Bank of England* (1980) AC 1090 and *Att Canada v Secretary of State for Trade* (1983) 2 AC 394.

His Lordship extracted the applicable principles. The issues were interlocutory and discretionary.

Public interest immunity was not a privilege which could be waived. It was an issue which had to be considered by the court.

Once the public interest immunity was raised, the burden was upon the party seeking disclosure to show why the document should be produced for inspection by the court privately.

At every stage of interlocutory proceedings the test was whether the material sought would be such as likely to advance the seeker's case. Where a public interest immunity was raised, it was necessary for those seeking to overcome the claim to demonstrate the existence of a counter-acting interest which called for the disclosure.

It was only then that the court proceeded to balance the interests of justice against the interest of the public service.

In the present case the onus was on the defendant to prove that the disclosure would be "reasonable cause to suspect". The facts upon which the defendant was entitled to rely were pleaded. The relevant time for establishing the existence or the non-existence of the suspicion was at the moment of arrest.

His Lordship had to decide whether under the ordinary rules of discovery the plaintiff

had established that he was entitled to the production of the report.

Having considered all the facts and submissions his Lordship had reached the conclusion that the plaintiff had not satisfied the court that the contents of the report would help his case or damage that of the defendant.

However, as the issue of public interest immunity had been fully argued the court would proceed to the "balancing exercise".

The position of the DPP had been considered in *Auten v Raymer* (1960) 1 QB 669. The comments there of Mr Justice Glyn Jones were pertinent to the conclusion of the public interest immunity which his Lordship had to consider and by parity of reasoning the factor of legal advice was a potent one in reaching a conclusion in the exercise of the court's discretion.

It was very important in the functioning of the criminal process of prosecution that there should be freedom of communication between police forces and the DPP. It was necessary for those seeking to overcome the claim to demonstrate the existence of a counter-acting interest which called for the disclosure.

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However, as the issue of public

Bradley is fined £500 at Ludlow

It was no surprise when the stewards reversed the placings of the first two after finding that Harrison had accidentally interfered with Woodenbridge and that the result had been affected

• on Severn, Durnessgate at
at High Peels & HE Chesters at
Moors, Pynney at Gullisborough,
E Devon at Chard.

June 4: Exmoor at Bratton Down.
June 11: Torrington at Umberleigh.

• denotes Times Championship qualifying meetings

... ..

Simon Barnes sees more than a glint of gold in the gap-toothed kid from Brooklyn

A game that is more of a myth than a hit



All sweetness and fight: Tyson ungloved packs a killer charm

Atlantic City Boxing is the great preserve of the myth-makers. No other sport has quite the same urge to create its own legends. Myths are its business: myths are, above all, box-office. That is why boxing is quite delighted with Mike Tyson. And as Tyson, aged 21, moves towards his classic confrontation with the former champion, Larry Holmes, aged 38, all those with a vested interest in the sport will be quietly praying for Tyson.

There is already a legend building up around Tyson: a legend of atavistic violence, of unstoppable, rhinoceros-charging destruction. He began his professional career with 19 successive knockouts, all but five of them in the first round. He became World Boxing Council world heavyweight champion in 1986 and last year became the undisputed champion, combining the entire alphabet soup of titles when he beat Tony Tucker.

Tyson is an awesome boxer, no doubt about that. But many people want him to be better than that: they want him to be one of the all-time greats. Boxing needs, well, not another Ali, there could never be two of him and, anyway, Ali kept making his own rules up in everything he approached. Boxing needs another legend: better still, one easier to deal with than Ali.

And Tyson is doing his best to be the man.

His explosive three years have caught the public's imagination, enlivened public interest in boxing, and packed in the high-rollers at ghastly places like Las Vegas and Atlantic City. When Tyson fights, the thousand-back-hand merchants come to town. Tyson is someone people want to watch, read about, write about.

His startling aggression is part of it but this is made more intriguing by his contradictory press conference persona: the quiet voice, the lisp, the rather sweet little jokes. When he gets into the ring he seems to put a completely different head on to a frightening, snarling, apparently quite personal aggression. He doesn't look like a man there, he looks like a sporting animal, a creature in a sporting arena seeking violence for the simple pleasure of it.

Then the charm again, the gap-toothed smile with a little twinkle of mischief. Tyson seems a made-to-measure boxing legend: the wild boy from the ghetto tamed for our enjoyment. And all it took was several million dollars.

The legend of Tyson's rascality past gets a little better with every fight. A childhood of unabashed criminality. "As a kid I carried a gun," he has been quoted as saying.

"All the gangs had guns back in Brownsville, Brooklyn. They used them in hold-ups and in gang fights. Then the gangs and knives came out. Sure, I fired mine. Thank God I never hit anybody."

Tyson is, in short, the personification of one of boxing's greatest pieces of self-justification: that boxing is "a way out of the ghetto". Let us put to one side the ludicrous aspect of this claim: the implicit notion that there is a job as heavyweight champion of the world waiting for all kids from tough backgrounds, if only they could get their acts together.

For there is something more than merely silly in the notion. The success of one brilliantly talented athlete seems somehow to excuse the fact that ghettos exist at all. One magical story about a legendary boxer makes the whole question of poverty seem to evaporate. After all, how can there be anything wrong with a place that produces such a man?

With such tales as Tyson violence is sanctified and the ghetto background glorified. No wonder so many powerful people love him: no wonder, by the same token, that so many powerful people hate Ali. Ali refused to play the game: he gave up his "slave name" of Clay, he refused to be drafted. They

called him, stripped him of his world championship and banned him from trying to win it back. You can see how important the legend of the good boxer is by the way they treat the boxers who won't go along with it: Jack Johnson was vilified just as Ali was.

Tyson is moving towards the status of an acceptable legend and tomorrow's fight, youthful fury against the ageing giant, has every aspect of drama you could wish for. All there is no sport like boxing, people tell me, no sport that produces such characters, such confrontations, such awesome contests. There is a simple reason for this. Most man-to-man sports are a form of stylized duelling — with a racket and a ball, or whatever. The enmity, the attacking, the defending are all metaphorical.

There is no metaphor in boxing: it is the real thing. Boxing is real fighting, perfectly genuine violence, a pastime whose perfectly genuine aim is to cause brain damage in the opponent. No wonder the contests stir the blood: no wonder the contestants are awesome, mythical men.

The point is not, in fact, that "there is no sport like boxing". The point is that boxing is not a sport at all. It is violence, unadorned, performed for the pleasure of millions. And millions is what it is all about.

BOXING

McCrory to make the theory stand up

By Srikanth Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Glenn McCrory has a "certificate" from Mike Tyson that says the Commonwealth cruiserweight champion from Amfield, county Durham, has gone 50 rounds with him. It might be a joke certificate, but nothing could be more serious than sparring with Tyson. McCrory's manager, Doug Bidwell, says "Mike is just as ferocious in the gym as he is when he's doing it for real."

Dozens of sparring partners have packed their bags and left town after the first hour's work with the world heavyweight champion. But McCrory, 24, is just getting started. He is looking good and I think I can now detect some spiciness. The experience has done him a world of good," Bidwell said. "He was the only one left standing."

If McCrory is still standing after 12 rounds with Tyson, the British title-holder, tonight at the Lashmere Leisure Centre, Battersea, he should be a double champion. "Oh, it was all pass-the-buck stuff," Tyson's manager, Frank Warren, says of the sparring with Tyson. "It will be different when he is in there with Tyson."

McCrory has the height, boxing ability and greater experience to stay in the ring. After all, he did outpoint the clever, if ageing, world-ranked Chrisant Mendi, of Zambia, to lift the Commonwealth title. But McCrory will need to call on all the confidence and defensive skills gained in the ring with Tyson to be standing there at the end. Tyson comes to fight.

Andy Straghan showed that Tyson can be beaten by boxing, so if McCrory can stick to the basics he should be able to keep Tyson off long enough to finish a clear winner. Tyson does tend to do the same thing — hooking and swinging — over and over again regardless.

However, if McCrory gets involved in a toe-to-toe affair, or gets caught by Tyson's boxing, he is unlikely to finish on his feet. Landing a big punch is the British champion's best hope. McCrory does not take a punch too well without his headgear, especially in the middle rounds.

Warren's dilemma over bout

Frank Warren has been plunged into a classic catch-22 situation over Tony Sibson's International Boxing Federation (IBF) middleweight title bout with Frank Tate in Stafford on February 7.

If the contest goes ahead over 15 rounds, the British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) would withdraw its licence, but if he allows it, the American television company, NBC, could sue him.

Unless the BBBC and the IBF can reach agreement over 12 or 15 rounds, Warren apparently cannot win, but yesterday he was still insisting that the show would go on. Warren said: "Obviously, I'm playing a compromise, I am, in daily contact with board secretary, John Morris, who has so far been very helpful. The fight is being shown live in the States and there would be all sorts of legal implications if it did not go ahead as planned."

Anderson may become first black referee

Brian Anderson, the former British middleweight champion, is set to become the country's only black boxing referee. Anderson, aged 26, from Sheffield, lost his British title when he was stopped by Tony Sibson in several rounds in September and is retired from the ring shortly afterwards.

He said: "I wanted to stay in the game but not as a trainer or manager so this is the best opening for me. I know it will not be easy. In certain areas of the country black boxers take some stick from the crowd."

Noel Quaresima, the Liverpool heavyweight, has a Liverpool licence for the top-of-the-bill contest at Hove Town Hall next Tuesday. Damien Marignat, of France, has been pulled out because of a detached retina and is replaced by the 32-year-old Dutch heavyweight champion, Andre Van Den Oetelaar.

Lloyd Christie believes he is back on course for a world title bout — but he still has a long way to go. He won a points victory over Tim Burgess, of New York, in Birmingham should, according to most of the crowd, have been the British light-welterweight champion's second successive defeat.

Results, page 41

BASKETBALL

Kingston spared Cadle ire

By Nicholas Harling

For Kevin Cadle to be anything less than scathing in defeat, his team must have done him proud. Polycell Kingston's American coach, whose pet hate is an Englishman's comfort in moral victories, for once found more reason to be encouraged than caustic after his team's exit from the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Kingston had indeed come so close to becoming the first British club to qualify for the last four of a European competition that Cadle felt justified in saying after their gallant but fruitless effort: "I've been in basketball a little while and I know I'm going to win a European Cup some time. It's there. We're not that far away." Then like a true American, he added: "It's not like we've got to swim the English Canal (sic) to get there. The capabilities are there."

Injuries to such key players as Boninger, Clark and Scott had not helped Kingston's cause. With Davis, Clark and, until he fouled out shortly after the interval, McNish, losing the battle under the boards to Devereaux, Leverkusen's outstanding American, Kingston had needed the long-range shooting accuracy of Boninger and Moore as never before. But even if Boninger had been fully fit it is doubtful that Kingston could have overcome the tight marking of the excellent Körner and Schmitz. Leverkusen's two international guards.

It was doubly remarkable in the circumstances that Kingston should draw level at 62-62 after trailing by 11 points in the first half to opponents inspired largely by the former Kingston player, Johnson.

Like Kingston, Manchester United finished their European campaign gloriously in defeat, so much so that Richard Greenwood, the club's prospective buyer, will certainly have no misgivings about going through with tomorrow's proposed purchase of the club. Greenwood, who along with his business associate, David Kay, hopes to finalize the sale of Martin Edwards' shares, said after United's 95-92 defeat by Racing Club de Paris: "The impression it left with me was that they went out with heads held high."

United's failure to subdue Dubousson, the celebrated French international, cost them their third victory in the quarter-final pool of the Korac Cup.

TENNIS: CASTLE AND SAAD GO THROUGH TO DOUBLES SEMI-FINALS AFTER RECORD-BREAKING MATCH

Odd couple combine to triumph on longest day

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Melbourne

An Anglo-Argentinian friendship, forged at an American university during the Falklands war, had extraordinary consequences in the Australian championships, yesterday.

Andrew Castle and Roberto Saad took five hours 10 minutes to beat two Canadians, Grant Connell and Glenn Michibata, 6-7, 7-6, 6-7, 6-3, 19-17. The fifth set lasted two hours 19 minutes.

There is no record of any Australian championships match lasting as long as this one did, though a few have endured for more games — as distinct from time. The temperature dropped by 30°F during the match. The result means that for the first time since 1935, when Fred Perry and Pat Hughes were runners-up, Britain will have a player in the final.

Assuming that they can still stand up, Castle and Saad will play a semi-final today against the Davis Cup partner, Jeremy Bates, and Peter Lundgren, of Sweden. Both British players have already contested doubles finals — the mixed — in Grand Slam events. Last year Castle and Anne Hobbs were runners-up here and Bates and Jo Durie won Wimbledon.

For a variety of reasons the men's teams who won last year's Grand Slam titles have not been in harness here. To some extent a major championship is going to change the future generations will not bother about that when they look at the roll of honour. "What matters for the moment is the bizarre series of circumstances that put Castle and Saad where they are. It was unlikely that an Englishman and an Argentinian would play tennis at Witchita State University at the same time."

Melbourne results

MEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-finals: M Wilander (Swe) bt A Jarryd (Aus), 7-6, 6-2, 6-3; S Edberg (Swe) bt A Chesnokov (USSR), 4-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-2.
MEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: M Davis (US) and B Driess (Aus) bt J B Boninger and M Tideman (Swe), 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; A Castle (GB) and R Saad (Arg) bt G Connell (Aus) and G Michibata (Can), 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, 19-17.
WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: M Mandlikova (Czech) and P Novotna (Czech) bt G Garrison and B Potter (US), 6-2, 7-6; C Evert (US) and W Turnbull (Aus) bt C Benjamin and G Magers (US), 7-6, 6-1; S Stanger (US) and L Saville (Aus) bt M J Magrath (US) and S Collins (US), 6-1, 6-1.
MEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: M Davis (US) and B Driess (Aus) bt J B Boninger and M Tideman (Swe), 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; A Castle (GB) and R Saad (Arg) bt G Connell (Aus) and G Michibata (Can), 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, 19-17.

the same time. "Bert was my hero," Castle said yesterday. "He was No. 1 and I was No. 2. We have a love-hate relationship and get each other fired up. He's a tremendous guy."

They would not have been a team but for the fact that Warren Jacques, director of Britain's international squad, thought Edberg and Bates would find it refreshing to play with other partners for a while. Saad

Castle fined

Castle was fined \$1,000 (about £565) for unsportsmanlike behaviour during the marathon match. The Briton, who became extremely frustrated at not getting away a number of match points, made obscene gestures and abused a British reporter in the fifth set.

was lucky to be here because he was granted a visa only a few hours before his flight. Officials found it odd that an Argentinian living in the United States should be going to work in Australia.

Castle and Saad also saved a total of 19 match points in previous rounds before going on court yesterday. And Castle served for this match three times without success. He was not at his best but nor was his net partner, Saad — whereas Michibata's reaction to the Brits were quick and decisive. "It was like climbing Everest," Castle said. "The third time I went to the line I felt very lonely."

For a long time Castle and Saad had been together while Saad was looking itchy (except when serving). But towards the end Castle's one-time

Exhausted Jarryd plays possum

From Rex Bellamy

Stefan Edberg, champion for the past two years, and Mats Wilander, winner in the two preceding years, will meet in a semi-final of the Australian championships yesterday. Yesterday Wilander had a third round bye. Anders Jarryd, by 7-6, 6-2, 6-3 and Edberg, having teetered on the edge of a cliff, had a 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 win over Andrei Chesnokov, one of the Soviet Union's genuine Russians.

All else being equal, the winner of a match between the most recent champions would be favourite for the title. But all else is not equal. The championships have been disrupted by a fast-paced and a cushioned hard court. And the other semi-final will be between Ivan Lendl, the hard court king, and Pat Cash the Wimbledon champion.

Each match offers the classic contrast between a fast-paced specialist (Edberg and Cash) and a baseliner. On the unfamiliar, medium fast courts of Flinders Park both styles of play can prosper. Consequently it would be reckless to forecast anything except two thrilling matches.

Edberg was another of the kind yesterday. For two sets he was ill at ease and the baseliner teased him into adversity. But for the fact that the umpire overruled a line decision, Chesnokov

hero played some inspired tennis. With Saad serving for the match at 18-17, 30 all a line judge made a premature decision that could have given the Canadians a break point.

Saad was foot faulted on his second service but the umpire over-ruled the decision because the call had been made before Saad had hit the ball. It is doubtful if such an incident was a mercy — very little is — but it was certainly rare. Anyway, the point was replayed and the Anglo-Argentinian team had no more problems.

What unlikely adventures they have had. After the match Castle said: "The adrenaline takes care of the pain but my feet ache. They're soggy."

Commenting on the length of the match, he added: "In your mind you become almost an infant. You have to keep everything simple. And you're so lacking in body fluids and salt that in some of those reflex rallies you don't always see the ball. It's just a blur."

This was a heroic performance by both teams, but the quality of the tennis did not suggest that we were watching potential champions. On the other hand the Castle-Saad story has already been so improbable that one cannot assume that its last chapter has been written.

Amritraj leads

New Delhi (AFP) — Vijay Amritraj is to lead India against Yugoslavia in the Davis Cup tie to be played here from February 5 to 7. The All India Tennis Association said. Ramesh Krishnan, Anand Amritraj, Srinivasan Vasudevan, Zeeshan Ali and Mark Ferreira are the other members of the team.



How Swede it is: Wilander stretched himself to beat Jarryd (Photograph: Tommy Hindley)

BOBSLEIGHING

Medals are secondary for British

From Chris Moore
Cervinia

Barring any further crashes, Britain's Olympic team should collect tangible reward today for lasting the course in the four-man competition at the final round of the Foster's World Cup series here.

Volker Dietrich, of East Germany, fastest in training, starts favourite to complete a double, having won gold in last week's two-man competition. But Nick Phipps and Tom De La Hunty head of two Italians, to take the other medals.

Harald Coudal, the second East German driver, who crashed on Tuesday, has damaged his sledges, so only five teams contest the medals.

Phipps is hoping Alan Cearnis, his brakeman, injured in the crash on Sunday, will be fit today, having used two replacements, including Roy Hunt, the British team physiotherapist, during training. Phipps had a best time of 1min 02.21sec yesterday, 0.21sec faster than De La Hunty. But almost no holding back on the block today in the penultimate selection race for next month's Games.

Writing one corner off best today will take a significant step towards convincing Mo Hammond, the British team manager, of their right to a place in the four-man race in Calgary. Only two of the three drivers in the Allied Steel Olympic squad — Mark Tait is the other — can race in both the two and four-man competitions. The chances are all three will be given the chance to compete once, but which one goes in both is still very much in the melting pot.

Doncaster's draw

Doncaster, headball's National Founder's Cup holders, have been drawn away to Birmingham Bournville in this season's quarter-finals.

DRAW: Stockport v Oxford Park; Bournville v Doncaster; Bournville v H. London or H. West; H. London v H. West.

FOOTBALL

SUNDAY MORNING COMPETITIONS: Brighton v Norwich (7.15).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Chelsea League Cup: First round: Birmingham v Kingston (7.30).

BILLIARDS: UK championships (at Manchester).

BOXING: British cruiserweight title: Tony Sibson (GB) bt Damien Marignat (FRA), 12 rounds.

SQUASH RACKETS: British title: Neil Harvey (GB) bt Bryan Beeson (GB), 3-2.

HOCKEY

London's revival checks Richmond

By Sydney Friskin

Richmond..... 3
London University..... 2

Richmond, who seemed comfortably placed with a 3-0 lead, had to fight off a spirited revival by London University to secure full points from their Pizza Express London League match yesterday.

London were strengthened by the return of Baxter, who had been abroad, but they missed the midfield services of Riley, who has joined Teddington. Before they had settled down, Richmond went ahead from a short corner, still struck by Daubney in the eighth minute.

Midway through the first half, London suddenly began to penetrate the Richmond defence and forced four successive short corners. Rogers saving twice from Holmes, but almost on half time Richmond increased their lead. Stocks doing the work and presenting Atkinson with the chance to drive the ball into an open goal.

Eight minutes into the second half the second of successive short corners to Richmond led to a penalty stroke, which Atkinson converted. But within 30 seconds there was a penalty stroke at the other end and Ward scored for London, who came sharply into contention with Coleman scoring from a clever pass by Kristman.

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SQUASH RACKETS

Cannons put Ardleigh over barrel

The three members of the James Copel Ardleigh national league squad in the quarter-finals of the Blue Stratos British under-23 open championship argued well for the good groundwork among the young players at the Essex Open last weekend, but almost on half time Richmond increased their lead. Stocks doing the work and presenting Atkinson with the chance to drive the ball into an open goal.

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Neil Harvey, the national No. 1, and Luke Gohin, who was against Bryan Beeson, the former British champion, and students, Tony Hands and Mark Allen, were left to face the professional experience of David Pearson and Robert Graham.

The absent trio had their own problems. Cairns went down in five to Zarah Jahan, the Pakistani top seed, at Lamb's Club, London, and Walker lost in straight games to Danny Meddings, of Surrey. Harris was also in deep trouble against Robert Owen, of Avon, and Gordon Frake, the referee, but even- tually kept his record title ambitions aloft emerging with a 5-9, 9-10, 9-1, 9-1 victory and today meets Meddings.

Ardleigh were only a point behind Cannons when Del Harris, Chris Walker and Mark Cairns were all embroiled in the under-23 quarter-finals. That left Nigel Stiles to face Ross Noonan, the former world champion, Danny Lee played

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English clubs wait in suspense

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Monte Carlo

The fate of the three English clubs which could qualify for Europe next season now lies in the hands of the nation's supporters. The rest of the domestic season must be peaceful if UEFA is on May 3 to consider lifting the ban that was imposed two and a half years ago.

Even then, readmission will be conditional upon the behaviour of England's supporters during the European championship finals in June. "The fans are in the position of holding football to ransom," Philip Carter, the president of the League, said after yesterday's meeting here with UEFA's executive committee.

Jacques Georges, the president of UEFA, announced that the decision, as expected, had been deferred. Although he and his

colleagues appreciate the efforts that have been made in England to combat hooliganism, they felt understandably that it was "too early" to reopen the domestic door to the Continent.

The monitoring of the behaviour of English crowds is to continue. It is clear that if there are sufficient repetitions of the incidents that have taken place recently at Highbury and Kenilworth Road, UEFA's growing confidence will be damaged irreparably for at least another season.

Yet Georges indicated that the door might soon be unlocked. Within the next four months, the committee is to consider three questions which would become relevant only "if we decided to lift the ban". The first concerns the destiny of Liverpool, who are almost certain to be the champions. Their sentence will start when that of the other clubs has finished

but Hans Bangerter, UEFA's secretary, has intimated that Liverpool may not have to serve the full three years. The second question concerns the number of clubs that should represent England abroad next season.

In view of Liverpool's position, there will doubtless be no entrant in the European Cup. The field is, therefore, likely to include the winners of the FA Cup (in the Cup Winners' Cup) and the Littlewood's Cup (in the UEFA Cup) with the runners-up in the League.

The third question could cause the downfall of domestic optimism. Foreign governments are to be asked whether they are willing for their club to accept the dreadful responsibility of staging ties against English clubs. Belgium, in particular, may not welcome the prospect.

Carter and Bert Millichip, the chairman of the Football Association, submitted a lengthy and

detailed account of all the measures that have been taken, with the assistance of the government, since the summer of 1985. There were no interruptions nor any questions. The committee had already made up its mind.

Before the pair were summoned, David Will, the president of the Scottish FA, had proposed that the ban should immediately be lifted. But, as was predictable, his was a lone voice crying in England's wilderness. "I'm a bit disappointed," he said, "because the sooner the decision is made, the better."

"Although my proposal was rejected unanimously, I feel that the majority of the committee is now satisfied that England's house is in order." He remains "very hopeful that there will be a positive decision" during the next meeting which will be held at St Andrews in four months.

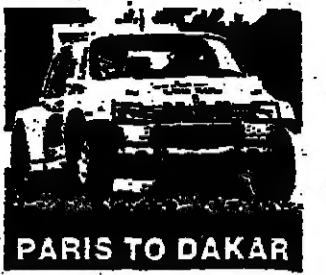
Will reiterated that there should be no conditions. "It is dangerous to say that the lifting of the ban depends on the behaviour of England's supporters in West Germany. That could invite the fans of other countries to provoke trouble."

Millichip confirmed that: "We will be taking tickets for the finals of the European Championship. We will be handling the distribution ourselves through the membership schemes and through season ticket holders. It will be done very carefully and it could become the pattern for clubs on a permanent basis."

As he left, he issued a stern warning. "The fans must behave themselves. They know full well that if they are provoked, which is very likely, they will retaliate. They must be careful and if they think they are going to get into trouble, I would say to them please don't go. Stay at home."

Fatal attraction of the death and glory rally

By Andrew Longmore



PARIS TO DAKAR

Death and glory are constant companions in motor racing, as all who compete know and understand. The organizers of the tenth Paris to Dakar rally, which finishes tomorrow, will have to stand the charge that the deaths of three competitors and one 10-year-old spectator — with two other competitors paralysed and countless others injured — is too high a price to pay, whatever the glory.

Jean-Marie Balestre, the president of FISA, under whose licence the rally is run, has threatened that if the event is not returned to the amateur, for whom it was originally designed, it will disappear from the calendar. He has arranged a meeting with the organizers, the Paris-based Thierry Sabine Organisation, as soon as the rally has finished.

Though the well-publicised mayhem of this year's event, which has included the kidnapping and subsequent disqualification of the leader's car, threatened strikes over petrol prices and complaints about the rescue services, has doubtless enhanced its notoriety, it does nothing for the safety image of FISA or of motor sport.

As Andrew Cowan, a Paris to Dakar veteran, predicted before this year's rally, it has become faster, tougher and infinitely more dangerous. Cowan has gained no satisfaction from having his fears confirmed, and he has nothing but praise for the rescue services, but he feels that several last improvements have to be made for next year.

"Days should be shorter so that competitors do not get too tired, particularly for motor cyclists; one mistake can be fatal and you make mistakes when you are tired," he said. "The road books could be improved, too. Hazards must be marked more precisely. There are usually warnings if you happen to be on the right route, but a lot of the accidents

occur when competitors are off the route and trying to make up time."

According to another British competitor, Barry Lee, the English translation of the road book missed out whole sections from the original. Lee feels that there should be a restriction on motor cycles and on the number of cars competing and modifications to the route so that several special stages are based on one town rather than spread out across the desert.

"Rules on servicing could be tightened and aircraft should be banned so that all mechanics have to travel in the service trucks," Lee said. "People are cheating like hell on that and getting away with it. You can make it safer without losing the excitement. I just hope FISA don't ban it."

The Paris to Dakar has, it seems, become a contest between the increasing professionalism of the top teams and the determination of the organizers to restore the "true tradition" of the event. Shakhur Mousha, who competed for the first time last year but was injured for this year's event, feels the level of professionalism has risen among the competitors but not the organizers.

Whatever the cause, the results of the year have seen a death toll double the average for the 10 years of the rally. But even Balestre might find the fatal attraction of the rally hard to resist. There were a record number of entries for this year's race; there will probably be more next year.

Peugeot tell leader to stand aside

From Jeremy Hart, Nouakchott, Mauritania

Peugeot have ordered Juhani Kankkunen, the official leader of the Paris to Dakar rally and the 1986 and 1987 world champion, to let Ari Vatanen go ahead of him on the road on the final two days of the rally, despite the fact that Vatanen has been technically disqualified from the rally for starting late in Babak.

Jean Todt, the rally director of Peugeot, said here yesterday that: "Juhani has been told to wait at the start to let Ari have his rightful place... first on the road; he (Kankkunen) will do everything to let him take his rightful victory." The exercise turned out to be fruitless, as yesterday's stage was cancelled as a violent sandstorm grounded rally safety helicopters and stranded dozens of cars and motorcycles in the desert.

Saving a disaster, Peugeot look certain to win the 1988 rally. Officially, Kankkunen leads by 2hr 7min; unofficially — without taking his late-start penalty into account — Vatanen leads by 24min. The result will only be known in February, when the Vatanen/Peugeot appeal is held in France.

Todt heard yesterday morning, via Rene Metze, the rally

organizer, the threat of Jean-Marie Balestre, the president of the FIA, motor-sports' ruling body, had repeated his threat to black-list the rally for professional drivers if Vatanen was not disqualified. Todt replied that he wanted Balestre's demands in writing. No documentation has been sent to Todt from Paris, but Balestre took the opportunity of a press conference during the Monte Carlo Rally in the afternoon, to attack Todt. Balestre outlined the rule in the FIA handbook by which he alleges that Vatanen should be disqualified: "Article 15, line 1 states that if a vehicle is delayed for more than 30 minutes after the starting time, it is disqualified."

Todt had nothing to say in reply to Balestre's statements. Balestre added that drivers and teams caught cheating in next year's Formula One world championship could face life bans now that new rules replace turbo with atomized engines. Bruno Sardi, the French driver, led the final section of the Monte Carlo rally by 10 minutes last night.

RESULTS: First stage leaders: 1. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 2. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 3. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 4. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 5. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 6. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 7. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 8. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 9. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot), 10. S. Sordo and J. F. F. (Peugeot).

Two clubs suffer heavy fine

The most severe financial punishment yet inflicted on warring clubs was imposed on Wigan and Warrington by the Rugby League management committee in Leeds yesterday (Keith Mackinnon writes).

Both clubs were fined £3,000 for the brawl that disgraced the New Year's Day League game between the sides at Widdows. Five hundred pounds of the fine must be paid within a week. The rest is suspended until the end of the year, with the proviso that if either club is involved in another brawl, the £2,500 will be forfeit.

The brawl, reported by the referee, Kevin Allan, erupted after 10 minutes, with virtually every player taking part. The Warrington coach, Tony Barrow, was further in the wars yesterday. He had been reported by Fred Lindop, the referee, for using abusive language to him at the Warrington v Bradford Northern league game at Widdows on December 20. Barrow was severely reprimanded and will send a letter of apology to Lindop, who is regarded as the game's No. 1 referee.

Sponsors bow to SA fears

Silvino Francisco, the South African snooker player ranked tenth in the world, has not been invited to compete in the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters in March. The sponsors felt that Francisco's inclusion could lead to demonstrations by Irish anti-apartheid groups.

John Virgo, the chairman of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, last night accepted the sponsors' right to bar the Chesterfield-based Francisco but viewed the decision as a potential problem.

Virgo said: "Now that the anti-apartheid lobby have scored some sort of victory against an individual we will have to put our heads together at our board meeting next week and devise a policy over this matter in case of future problems."

Francisco, paradoxically, will be playing in the Benson and Hedges Masters at Warrington next week. He said: "I have lived in Britain for six years and I am trying to obtain a British passport. I expect the WPSA to represent my interests as strongly as they would any of their members."

Villa and Watford agree to a ban on transfer deals

A self-imposed ban has been placed on transfer dealings between Aston Villa and Watford to avoid the danger of friction between Graham Taylor and Steve Harrison, his former assistant at both clubs.

Both managers have linkages for the same players. Jackett, Watford's Welsh international, is just one example. Taylor has wanted the mid-field player ever since he joined Villa during the close season but has now abandoned thoughts of signing him.

"I know Steve's view of certain players and he knows mine. They tend to coincide. He will want to keep his best ones as I do, so it would be silly of us to create problems. We are both realistic enough to know there can be no transfer dealing between the two clubs for the foreseeable future."

Arthur Cox, the Derby County manager, who has been frustrated by the transfer ban during Robert Maxwell's protracted wrangle with the Football League, still did not know yesterday whether he was now clear to attempt to stave off the threat of relegation with new signings.

Derby supporters had been hoping that Maxwell's decision to stay in the chair at the Baseball Ground following Tuesday's meeting of the Football League would bring an immediate promise of more cash for desperately needed signings. But Derby's managing director, Stuart Webb, would only say yesterday that he hoped to be able to arrange a meeting "in the near future to discuss with Mr Maxwell the strategy for future developments".

Should Derby be in the market again soon, Frank Stapleton is one player they are expected to pursue. Ajax's Republic of Ireland forward is having talks with the Scottish premier division strugglers, Dundee United, but he is also wanted by Newcastle United. The former Arsenal and Manchester United player is currently out of favour with the Dutch club.

Manchester City have completed the signing of Trevor Morley, aged 25, from Northampton in part exchange for Tony Adcock. City valued Adcock at £85,000 and have paid an additional £150,000 to the third division club for Morley, who will make his

debut for them against Aston Villa on Saturday. Adcock joined City in the summer from Colchester for £75,000.

Stoke City have given Brian Talbot permission to talk to West Bromwich Albion who see the former Ipswich, Arsenal and Watford midfielder player as the man to help improve a sequence of only one win in 12 games. Albion may try to tempt Talbot with the offer of a coaching position.

Albion are to play a benefit match in the north east next Tuesday for Whitley Town's former England Under 23 forward, David Mills, whose transfer to The Hawthorns from Middlesbrough nine years ago created a British transfer record of £516,000. Mills is currently recovering in Newcastle General Hospital from a recent car crash in which his father was killed.

Graham Roberts has agreed a contract that will keep him with Rangers until 1991.

York City have agreed a fee of £8,000 for the transfer of the Bournemouth midfielder player Gary Howlett, who played for Brighton in the 1983 FA Cup final against Manchester United.

Rush scores four

Ian Rush returned to form in spectacular fashion for Juventus yesterday, scoring four goals in his side's 6-2 win at Pescara in an Italian Cup second round second leg match.

The goals came not a moment too soon for Rush, who has been under increasing pressure after a series of indifferent performances. In a match dominated by imported players Michael Laudrup, the Dane, scored Juventus's other two goals, while the Brazilian, Junior,

and the Yugoslav, Sliskovic, were on target for Pescara. The aggregate score was 7-2 to Juventus, who are now in the quarter-finals of the competition.

Also through yesterday were Sampdoria and Avellino, but Roma were surprisingly knocked out by Empoli, who are bottom of the first division. The remaining second-round matches are between Napoli and Fiorentina, AC Milan and Ascoli, Inter-Milan and Bologna, and Torino and Verona.

Semi-final draw vital for Luton

The draw for the Littlewood's Cup semi-finals today will determine whether Luton Town stage their home leg at Kenilworth Road, with an allocation of 3,500 tickets for visiting supporters, or play at a neutral venue.

Despite the incidents at Tuesday's quarter-final against Bradford City, when there were three arrests, a policeman taken to hospital after being hit on the shoulder by a piece of concrete and a Bradford supporter stabbed in the town, the club will not abandon the principle of re-admitting visiting supporters reintroduced in cup games this season. The final decision will be made by the police.

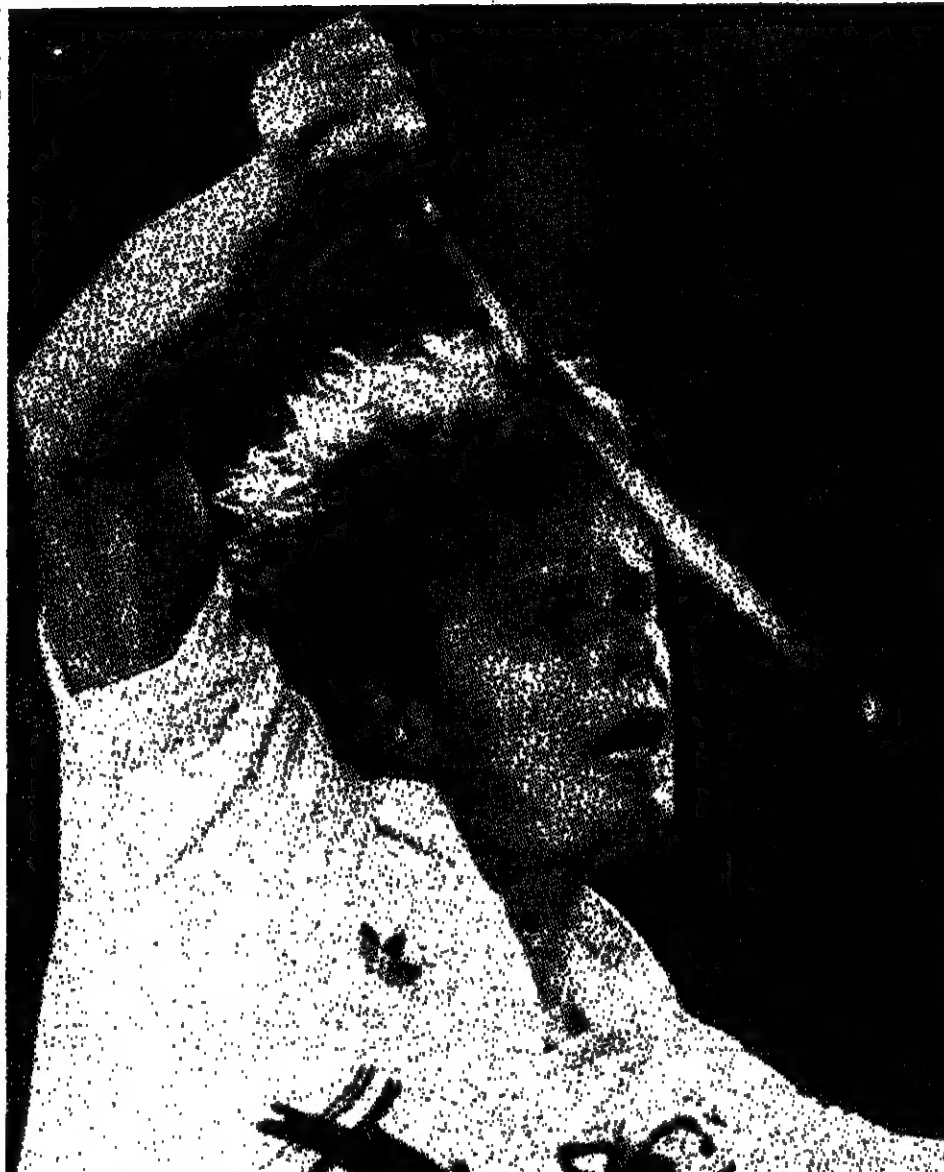
Philip Carter, the president of the League, said: "Ideally, we would have preferred Luton to have played on a neutral ground."

"We received a letter from them saying only that the police would guarantee the safety. The responsibility was always placed on Luton. We offered them alternatives where they could have held the game but they chose to stage it themselves so I don't want to see David Evans (the Luton chairman) getting up on his soap box and telling us that we've got it all wrong because this time it was their fault."

Gasser defies IAAF ban by racing today

The Sandra Gasser campaign against her two-year ban for drugs is getting out of hand (Pat Butcher writes). Two days after an International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) arbitration panel confirmed the ban, Miss Gasser will seek in her home town of Berne today an extension of the court order she was granted before Christmas allowing her to run domestically.

She intends to compete in the indoor meeting in Muggingen tomorrow. She is evidently taking heart from the finding by Manfred Donike, a prominent member of the IAAF's own anti-doping commission, that Miss Gasser's second urine sample (from which the drug test is done) was "so different that the only logical conclusion is that the urines in the A and B sample were not identical".



Smashing Swede: Stefan Edberg, defending champion, tastes victory over Chumakov, of the Soviet Union, in the quarter-finals of the Australian tennis championships. Report, page 40

Resounding tinkle as Tyson hits town

From Simon Barnes, Atlantic City

There are still a few \$250 seats left but you had better hurry. The \$500 seats all went on Tuesday. There is no doubt about it, the Trump Plaza Hotel has a hit on its hands.

Tomorrow night Mike Tyson, aged 21, already the legendary undisputed heavyweight champion of the world, takes on the former champion, the quick and difficult Larry Holmes, now 38, immensely wealthy but happy to take a further \$3.1 million (about £1.76 million) for the bout.

And Trump Plaza is reckoning on raking it in at the tables. The night should bring in at least \$7 million in gambling revenue, they estimate. This is an out-of-season seaside resort, cold, rainy and with sea fog bringing the visibility down to about 20 yards.

"The planes are all overbooked, you can't book a helicopter, you can't book a limo. This is mass confusion." Don King, the promoter, was in the best shape of his life. He always is.

The contest has been turning into a promoter's dream, with the growing reputation of Tyson creating a wave that all the people in the business are riding for all they are worth. They reckon that Tyson should earn about \$50 million from his packed schedule of

title defences this calendar year. Tyson will soon overtake Ali as the most richly rewarded athlete in history.

Opinions vary about Holmes. He has been playing at Greta Garbo. He refused to turn up for the ritual press conference.

Tyson was there, wearing a nice pair of spotted suspenders (or braces, if you prefer). The Press is beginning to treat him with nothing less than sycophancy, not only roaring with laughter but applauding his jokes.

"I'm glad Larry Holmes is not here," Tyson said. "He sometimes speaks before his brain is in motion and no one has the time to hear bar-room epiphanies."

"But what about his 10-inch advantage in reach, Mike?" My whole life has been a disadvantage. I'm the greatest fighter on the planet and no one can beat me."

"Which round will you beat him in, Mike?" I'm not much of a predictor. But I can assure you of victory." Applause, applause.

The bandwagon rolls on and the smiling, lipping champion is winning all the battles. Everyone loves him: most of all the boxing promoters.

Simon Barnes, page 40

Preston sign on Miandad

Javed Miandad, who has stood down as Pakistan captain for the return of Imran Khan, has signed a £10,000 contract with Preston in the Northern League this summer.

Miandad links up with Clive Lloyd, the former West Indies captain and Preston development director, to become the second Test player to join the Northern League as Manchester Singh, of India, will play for Blackpool.

Julian Allitt, chairman of Preston's development committee, said: "We have had overseas professionals here before, but this our first big name. The success of Viv Richards at Richmond was one of the reasons for bringing Javed to the club and every body is delighted that he has agreed to come. He has signed a one-year contract worth £10,000, plus benefits, to be our professional."

● ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has barred Qasim Omar, the former Test batsman, from all matches for seven years for accusing colleagues on the tour of Australia last year of drug-taking. Omar had played 26 Tests but Chaudhry Saifur Butt, the PCB president, said a committee had found his charges without foundation.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Record is revoked

As the false claims of the French solo circumnavigator, Philippe Monnet, exposed in yesterday's Times, reverberate around the world, the Offshore Racing Council and other organizations which had accepted the yachtman's one-stop achievement were busily removing his 129-day voyage from the record books.

The sailor, aged 26, who returned to a hero's welcome in Brest last April aboard the 65-foot trimaran, *Killer Bw de Brest*, originally claimed a non-stop record, but later admitted that he had spent 67 hours in Cape Town replacing his forestay. However, yesterday's story in *The Times* revealed that Monnet had also stopped at Bluff, a small harbour in New Zealand's South Island to make further rigging repairs, and again in the Azores.

Jacklin return

Tony Jacklin, Europe's Ryder Cup captain, will compete in the British Open for the first time in three years in July at Royal Lytham, the course where he won the event in 1969.

Surprise catch

Kent County Cricket Club received a surplus of £5,775 last year despite a reduction of £52,000 in the annual TCCB distribution.

Palma first

The Moroccan Open, scheduled as the first event of the 1988 European golf tour, has been postponed until the autumn and the tour will begin with the Malloccan Open in Palma from March 10 to 13.

Moseley boost

Moseley Rugby Union Club received a boost yesterday when it renewed its sponsorship agreement with James Upton Ltd, the Birmingham printers.

Classic launch

A "Cockney Classic" mixed doubles badminton tournament has been launched by Thames Television and Laing Homes.

RAF beaten

Cambridge University hockey team defeated the Royal Air Force 1-0 at Fenner's yesterday. McNally scoring in the first half.

After two or three hours work, your staff could retire happily.

If, as an employer, you should attempt to plough through the new pensions legislation unaided, you could find that your employees have retired before you've finished.

One alternative is to spend a couple of hours with our Employer's Information Pack.

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